

(5)

THE
WICKED LIFE,
AND
WOFULL DEATH
OF
HEROD
the Great,

A stranger by Nation, yet by the
Romans made King of the *Jews*.

Taking in also the Story of the *Jews* during all the
time of his Reign, which was about 37 years: where-
of thirty five were before the Incarnation of
CHRIST, and two after.

Whereby much light is given to many passages in the Evange-
lists: and at which time that Prophecie of old *Isaiah* was fulfilled:
*The Scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a Law-giver from
between his feet, till Shilo come. Gen. 49. 10.*

By S. A. CLARKE, sometime Pastor in
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The memory of the Just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot. Pro. 10. 7.

L O N D O N,
Printed for William Miller at the Sign of the Gilded-Acron
in St Pauls Churchyard near the little North door. 1664.



Imprimatur,



Joh. Hall R.P.D. Episc.
Lond. à Sac. Domest.

Feb. 18. 1663.



THE
WICKED LIFE,
AND
WOFULL DEATH
OF
HEROD,
the Great,

In whose Time our LORD CHRIST was Born.



HEROD, surnamed the Great, was the Son of *Antipas*, or *Antipater*, an *Idumaean*; a prime man both for birth, and wealth amongst them: His mothers name was *Cyprus*, born at an eminent place amongst the *Arabians*, so that when this *Herod* acquired the Kingdom of *Judea*, that Prophecie of old *Jacob* was fulfilled, Gen.49.10. *The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a Law-giver from between his feet, until Shiloh come.*

This *Antipater*, riding his circuit about the Province of *Judea*, whereof *Julius Caesar* had made him Governour, repressed them who were desirous of innovation, both by threats, and counsell; telling them, that if they would be content with their Prince *Hyrcanus* (whom *Caesar* also had confirmed in the High-Priesthood) they might live happily in their own possessions: but if they promised themselves new hopes, and thought that they should gain much by innovations, they should have him a Master instead of a Governour, and *Hyrcanus* a Tyrant instead of a King: and *Caesar*, and the *Romans* bitter enemies instead of Princes; for that they would by no means suffer any

Herods Pedigree.

thing to be altered, from what they had settled. But *Antipater* perceiving *Hyrcanus* to be dull, and idle, he settled the state of the Province as himself pleased, making his elder son, *Phasalus*, Governour of *Jerusalem*, and the Countries adjoyning: and to *Herod* his second son, being then a very young man, he committed the care of *Galilee*.

Herod is
made Go-
vernour
of *Galilee*.

Herod being *Prasect* of *Galilee*, there was one *Esekias*, a *Jew*, who associating to himself many other lewd persons, exercised thievery, and used to make incursions into *Syria* in Troops: These *Herod* pursued, and having taken *Esekias*, he put him to Death, which fact of his gat him much favour with the *Syrians*, which Province also was then under his Government.

He puts
Esekias
to death.

The violence, and bold nature of *Herod*, who was desirous of the Tyranny, much terrified the Princes of the *Jews*, wherefore they addressed themselves to *Hyrcanus*, and openly accused *Antipater*; but especially they complained of *Herod* for that he had put to Death *Esekias*, with many others, without any Commission from *Hyrcanus*, in contempt of their Laws, by which, no man ought to suffer, though never so wicked, unless he were first condemned by the Judges. The Mothers also of them that were killed, ceased not daily in the Temple to weary both the King and the people with their continuall exclamations, desiring that *Herod* might be made to give an account of these his doings before the *Sanhedrim* whereupon *Hyrcanus* moved herewith commanded *Herod* to be called before the Councell, and to plead his own cause.

He is ci-
ted before
the *Sanhe-
drim*.

Herod having ordered the affairs of *Galilee* as he thought best for his own advantage, being forewarned by his Father that he should not come into the Councell as a Private person, he took with him a moderate, but yet a sufficient Guard: not too great, lest he should terrifie *Hyrcanus*, nor too little, lest he should expose himself to danger from the Judgement. When *Herod* therefore presented himself before the *Sanhedrim* in his royall robes, and his Guard in armes, they were all astonished, neither durst any one of them that accused him in his absence, now
speak

Appears
with a
Guard.

Speak a word against him; but all of them kept silence, not knowing what to do. Then one of the Councell, called *Sameas*, a just man, being not at all distracted with fear, rose up, and not only accused *Herod* of presumption and violence, but laid the fault upon the Judges, and King himself who had granted him so great a liberty, and told them, that afterwards, by the just Judgement of God they should be punished by *Herod* himself; and the event made him a true Prophet. For the Judges of that Councell, and *Hyrcanus* himself were afterwards put to death by *Herod* when he came to be King. But *Hyrcanus* perceiving that the Judges were inclining to pass sentence of Death upon *Herod*, put off the business till the next day, and privately advised him to shift for himself, and so he departed to *Damascus* as if he fled from the King, and presenting himself before *Sextus Caesar*, and having secured his own affairs, he professed openly, that if he were again cited by the Judges he would not appear, which they took in great disdain, and endeavoured to persuade *Hyrcanus* that all these things tended to his destruction.

Sameas his boldness.

A prediction.

Herod flies

Refused to appear when again cited

Herod to increase his power, gave a great summe of money to *Sextus Caesar*, who thereupon made him Governor of *Calosyria*: He, being elated with this advancement, and taking it impatiently that he had been called before the Councell, raised an Army, and went against *Hyrcanus*: But his Father *Antipater*, and Brother *Phaselus* meeting him, by their intreaties prevailed that he should not go against *Jerusalem*, but be content to have affrighted them, adding that it would be dishonourable for him if he should attempt any thing further against him that had advanced him to his dignity; hereupon he desisted, judging it sufficient for his future hopes that he had shewed to that Nation of what power he was.

Is made Governor of *Calosyria*.

Cassius and *Marcus*, two Roman Generals, coming into *Syria*, after the death of *Julius Caesar*, confirmed *Herod* in his Government of *Calosyria*, and delivered to him great forces both of horse and foot, and ships at Sea, promising him also the Kingdom of *Judea*, after the war should

Is confirmed in it.

should be ended which they were waging with *M. Anthony*, and young *Cesar*.

Not long after *Antipater* (the Father of *Herod*) was Feasted at *Hyrcanus* his house, at which time, one *Malichus* corrupting the Kings Butler, poisoned *Antipater*, and presently raising a band of Souldiers, seized upon the Governmen of the City of *Jerusalem*. *Phasalus* and *Herod* being grievously offended hereat, charged *Malichus* with their Fathers death, which he stily denied: But *Herod* had a great mind presently to revenge the murder, and to raise an Army for that purpose, had not *Phasalus* interposed, who judged it more meet to circumvent *Malichus* by Policy, least they should seem to be the beginners of a civil war, and accordingly *Phasalus* made as though he accepted of *Malichus* his justification, and believed that he was not guilty of his Fathers Death, and so busied himself in building a stately Monument for him.

In the mean while *Herod* coming to *Samaria*, and finding it in a desperate estate by reason of their Civil dissensions, he appeased the discords amongst the Inhabitants and restored it to peace: and not long after, the Feast of *Pentecost* approaching, he went to *Jerusalem* accompanied with some souldiers, of whom *Malichus* being afraid, perswaded *Hyrcanus* not to suffer him to enter, which *Hyrcanus* accordingly did, alleadging that amongst the holy People that came to the Feast, it was not lawfull to bring in a mixt multitude of prophane men. But *Herod* making small account of the prohibition, entred the City by night, and thereby mightily terrified *Malichus*; who, thereupon, according to his wonted dissimulations, openly bewailed with tears the Death of *Antipater*, as of his dear Friend: And it was judged meet by *Herods* Friends, that he should take no notice of this dissimulation, but courteously again intertain *Malichus*.

He is excited to revenge his Fathers death.

Herod by letters certified *Cassius* of his Fathers death, who very well knowing the temper of *Malichus*, wrote back unto *Herod* to revenge the same, and secretly also gave order to the Tribunes that were at *Tyre* to be aiding

to *Herod* in his so just undertaking.

Cassius afterward having taken the City of *Laodicea*, Governours came from every place, bringing Crowns and Presents, to him: and here *Herod*, expecting that *Malichus* should doe the like, intended to have him punished for the Murder of his Father: But *Malichus* had another design on foot, purposing, that whilest *Cassius* was busie in prosecuting the warre against *M. Anthony*, to stir up the Nation of the *Jews* to revolt from the *Romans*, and to depose *Hyrcanus*, and get the Kingdom to himself; But *Herod* being Politick and understanding of the treachery, invited him and *Hyrcanus*, with some other of their companions to supper: At which time he sent one of his servants, under pretence of providing for the Banquet, whereas indeed he sent him to the Tribunes to desire them to set upon *Malichus*, with their weapons, who being mindfull of the Commands of *Cassius*, finding *Malichus*, they ran through, and slew him, at which *Hyrcanus* being astonished, fell into a swoon, and being scarcely come to himself, he asked who had slain *Malichus*, and when one of the Tribunes answered that it was done by the command of *Cassius*, he said, Truly *Cassius* hath preserved me and my Country, in killing him who was a Traitor to both; but whether herein he spake as he thought, or that through fear only he seemed to approve the fact, is uncertain. *Malichus* slain.

After *Cassius* was gon out of *Syria*, there arose a sedition at *Jerusalem*. For *Felix*, who was left there by *Cassius* with souldiers, in revenge of the death of *Malichus*, set upon *Phasalus*, and the people betook themselves to their Armes. At which time *Herod* was with *Fabius*, the Governour of *Damascus*, and had a mind to help his Brother, but was hindered by a sudden sickness: Yet did *Phasalus* get the better of *Felix*, forcing him into the Town, and afterwards agreeing upon quarter, suffered him to go out: But he was very angry with *Hyrcanus*, that after the receipt of so many favours from him, he yet favoured *Felix*, and suffered the Brother of *Malichus* to seize upon some Castles, and amongst the rest, of the Castle of *Massada*, which

A sedition
at *Jerusalem*.

was a most strong piece.

Herods
Valour.

As soone as *Herod* was recovered, he went against the Brother of *Malichus*, and took from him all the Castles that he had seized upon, and *Maßada* also, where he took him Prisoner, yet afterwards set him at liberty upon composition. He also recovered three Castles that were seized upon by *Mason*, the Tyrant of the *Tyrians* in *Galilee*, but gave Quarter to all the Souldiers, and sent them home well rewarded, by which means he procured the love of the Citizens, but the greater hatred of the Tyrant.

His Policy

He over-
comes *Antigonus*.

Shortly after *Antigonus*, the son of *Aristobulus*, Brother to *Hyrcanus*, invaded *Judea*, being assisted by *Ptolomei*, the son of *Meneus*, and *Fabius* the Governor of *Damascus*, and *Mason*, the Tyrant of the *Tyrians*, who adhered to him for the hatred that he bore to *Herod*, whom *Herod* meeting, when they had scarce entred the borders of *Judea*, overcame them in Battell, and drave them thence, whereupon *Hyrcanus* honoured him with Crowns, as soone as he returned to *Jerusalem*: For he was already accounted as one of the Family of *Hyrcanus*, being to marry *Mariamne*, or *Mary*, the daughter of *Alexander*, the son of *Aristobulus*, the Brother of *Hyrcanus*, and of *Alexandra*, the daughter of *Hyrcanus*.

M. Anthony having overcome *Brutus* and *Cassius*, there met him Ambassies from all Nations in *Bythinia*, and amongst the rest some of the Rulers of the *Jews*, to accuse *Phasalus*, and *Herod*, alleadging that *Hyrcanus* ruled only in shew, but in truth, all the power was in the two Brothers: Yet *Anthony* highly honoured *Herod*, who was come thither to wipe off all those objections, whereby it came to passe that his adversaries were not so much as admitted to speak with *Anthony*: and this *Herod* had obtained by his Bribes.

Herod ac-
cused to
Anthony.

Yet not long after there came an hundred of the most honourable amongst the *Jews* to *Daphne*, near *Antioch* in *Syria*, to *Anthony*, to accuse *Phasalus* and *Herod*, having chosen out of their whole number the most Eloquent, to mannage their business: But *Messala* undertook the defence

sence of the two Brothers, with whom also *Hyrcanus* joined, who had betrothed his Grand-daughter to *Herod*. Both parties being heard, *Anthony* asked *Hyrcanus* whether of the two parties were fittest to Govern a Commonwealth? who speaking for the young men, *Anthony* that loved them for their Fathers sake, his old Friend, he made them both *Tetrarchs*, leaving to them the Government of all *Judea*, writing his letters to the same purpose, and clapped fifteen of their Adversaries into prison, and would have put them to death, had not *Herod* intreated for them. But when the People did nothing but rail upon *Herod*, *Anthony* in displeasure slew them all.

Herod accused to *Anthony*.

But acquitted.

Antigonus the Son of *Aristobulus* hired the *Parthians* to translate the King some from *Hyrcanus* to himself and to kill *Herod*, who coming along with him, and some *Jews* also joining themselves to him, he came to *Jerusalem*, and they set upon the Kings House: But *Phasaelus* and *Herod* defended it against them, and in the Market place, overcomming them in a fight, forced them to fly into the Temple, where they shut them in, and placed sixty men in some adjoining houses to prevent their flight: but the people having the two Brethren set fire on those Houses, and burnt the men in them, which so enraged *Herod* that he slew many of the people: and each laying wait for the other, every day some were murdered.

War between *Antigonus* and *Herod*.

The day of *Pentecost* being come, many thousands of men, as well armed as unarmed gathered together about the Temple from all parts of the Country, and seized upon the Temple, and City, all but the Kings House, which *Herod* kept with a few souldiers, as *Phasaelus* did the walls. These brothers assisting each other, assaulted their enemies, in the suburbs forced many thousands of them to fly, some into the City, and some into the Temple, and others into a rampire that was near the City.

Herod prevails.

Hereupon *Antigonus* desired that *Pacorus*, the Generall of the *Parthians* might be admitted to make peace between them: which *Phasaelus* assented to, and *Pacorus* perswaded him to go with him as an Ambassador to *Barrabass*.

The *Parthians* fallhood.

zapharnes (an other Generall of the *Parthians*) laying an ambush for him by the way : *Phaselus* assented, though much against the mind of his Brother *Herod*, and was willing to go with *Pacorus*, and took *Hyrcanus* along with him. *Pacorus* leaving two hundred Horsemen with *Herod*, and ten whom they called *Eleutheri*, went along with the Ambassadors. And as soone as they were come into *Galile*, *Barzapharnes* entertained them with a cheerefull countenance, and bestowed gifts upon them, but watched an opportunity to intrap them : and so *Phaselus* was brought with his company to a place near the Sea side called *Ecdippon* ; where *Ophellus*, a rich *Syrian*, understanding of the treachery intended against them, offered *Phaselus* some ships to carry him away : But he unwilling to leave *Hyrcanus*, and his Brother *Herod* in danger, expostulated with *Barzapharnes* about the injury offered to them who were Ambassadors, who swore that these things were not true, and presently went to *Pacorus*.

*Herod flies
from Jerusalem.*

No sooner was he gon, but *Hyrcanus* and *Phaselus* were clapped up in Prison, much detesting the perfidiousness of the *Parthians* : and an Eunuch also was sent to *Herod* with a command to surprize him if he could get him out of *Jerusalem*. *Herod* having intelligence what had happened to his Brother, taking with him such forces as he had in readines, and his Mother *Cybele*, his sister *Salome*, his wife *Marianne*, and his wives Mother *Alexandra*, the daughter of *Hyrcanus*, and his youngest Brother *Pheroras*, with their servants, he privately by night took his flight into *Idumaea*.

*He would
have killed
himself.*

In their journey, his Mother, by the overthrow of her Coach, was in great danger of death, and *Herod*, fearing least the enemies should overtake them whilest they stayed there, drew forth his sword, thinking to kill himself : But being restrained by those which stood by, he went towards *Massada*, a very strong place, which is seated in *Arabia*, and *Palestine*, by the nearest way that he could possible : The *Parthians* first, and also the *Jews* pursuing him by that he was sixty furlongs from the City, but he repelled

repelled them both in fight.

The next day after Herod had fled from Jerusalem, the Parthians plundered the City, and the Kings house; only the Treasure of Hyrcanus which was three hundred Talents, remained untouched. A great part also of Herods substance which he had not carried away with him, they seized upon; and not satisfied therewith, they harried all the the Country also, and rased the rich City of Marissa.

Jerusalem
plunder-
ed.

Antigonus being thus settled in Judaea by the Parthians, he received into his Custody Hyrcanus, and Phasalus, who were prisoners: yet he was much grieved that the women were got away, whom he had intended to deliver to the Parthians, together with the money which he had promised to give them. Being afraid also lest Hyrcanus should again by the favour of the people be restored to his Kingdom and Priesthood, he cut off his ears, thereby rendering him unfit for the Priesthood, the Law forbidding that any one who wanted a member should approach to the Altar. Lev. 21. 17, & c.

Antigonus
made King
of the
Jews.

Cuts off
Hyrcanus
ears.

Phasalus knowing that his death was determined, fought to lay violent hands upon himself, but being hindered by reason of his chains, he dashed out his brains against a stone: Yet before he was quite dead, hearing by a woman that his Brother Herod was escaped, he greatly rejoiced that there was one left to revenge his death. The Parthians, though they missed of the women, which they most of all desired, yet having settled all things at Jerusalem with Antigonus, when they departed, took Hyrcanus along with them Prisoner into Parthia.

Phasalus
kills him-
self.

Herod not hearing of his Brother Phasalus his death, went to Malchus, the King of the Arabians [Nabathaans] who were obliged to him by many favours he had done them, purposing so soone as possiblely he could to redeem his Brother for three hundred Talents from the enemy: For which cause he carried along with him young Phasalus, his Brothers Son, about seven years old, to leave him for a pledge with the Arabians: But there met him some that

Herod flees
to Malchus
King of
Arabia.

Herod rejected by him. were sent from *Malchus*, to command him to depart from the bounds of his Kingdome, for so the *Parthians* had required: Yet he pretended that he did it by the request of his Noble men, purposing to cozen him of that great treasure which his Father *Antipater* had committed to his trust. *Herod* taking this very heavily, turned aside into a certain Temple, where he had left many of his followers: but the next day, when he came to *Rhinocorura* he heard of his Brothers death.

Herod goes into *Egypt*. *Malchus*, upon second thoughts, repenting of his ingratitude, sent in all haste after *Herod*: but the messengers could not overtake him: for he was gone farre on his journey towards *Pelusium*, where the Marriners that were sailing to *Alexandria*, refused to take him in. There, by the Magistrates of the City he was honourably entertained, and brought to *Cleopatra*, the Queen, who could not prevail with him to stay at that time, because he was hastening to *Rome*, though the sea was very tempestuous, and as then the affairs in *Italy* were in no very good condition. As he sailed from *Alexandria* towards *Phamphilia* he met with a very great storm, which made him cast overboard much of his substance, and scarcely got he to *Rhodes*.

He comes to *Rhodes*.

So into *Italy*.

Anthony favours him.

At *Rhodes* two of his greatest friends met him, *Sappinas*, and *Ptolomæus*, and finding that the City had suffered much in the warre against *Cassius*, he could not be restrained, no not by his present poverty, but that he would do something for it, even beyond his ability: After which he caused a Frigate to be built, and embarking himself with his Friends in it, he arrived at *Brundisium* in *Italy*, and from thence went to *Rome*, declaring unto *M. Anthony* those things that had happened to himself and his Family, and that thorough many tempests, and dangers he had retired unto him, as his onely refuge, in whom all his hope lay.

This Narration moved compassion in *Anthony*; remembering also his Fathers friendship towards him, but that which prevailed most, was the promise of a great sum of money if he would help him to the Kingdome: *Anthony* also

Also hated *Antigonus* as a man of a turbulent spirit, and an enemy to the Romans. *Cesar* also partly for that *Antipater* And *Cas-*
[*Herods* Father] had been fellow souldier with his Father *far*.
in *Egypt*, and for other curtesies which he had shewed him, and partly to gratifie *Anthony*, whom he saw to be well affected to *Herod*, was willing to promote his designs: whereupon the Senate being assembled, *Messala*, and *Atpatinus*, brought in *Herod*, and after they had praised him, reckoning up the love, and services that both he, and his Father had done for the Romans, and accusing *Antigonus* both for former crimes, and for that newly he had received the Kingdom of the Jews from the *Parthians* in contempt of the Romans: and when *Anthony* also had declared to the Senate how much conducing it was to the *Parthian* warre, then in hand, that *Herod* should be made King: *Antigonus* was declared an enemy, and the Kingly Title was devolved upon *Herod* by their generall suffrage.

The Senate make him King.

Whilest these things were transacting at *Rome*, *Ventidius*, the Roman Generall easily recovered *Palestine*, *Antigonus*, the King thereof, being much afraid of him, and he exacted great sums of mony from all men, but especially from *Antigonus*, who in *Herods* absence had besieged his Family in *Masbada*, which place, though it abounded with all other kinds of provision, yet it wanted water, so that *Joseph*, *Herods* Brother, who commanded in chief there, with two hundred of his friends intended to fly to the *Arabians*; for that he heard that *Malchus* now repented him of his former ingratitude towards *Herod*: But the very night a great shoure of rain falling filled their cisterns, which made him change his purpose, and the next morning, making a gallant salley forth, they killed many of *Antigonus* his men.

Herods Family besieged.

A special providence.

Ventidius encamped near to *Jerusalem*, and drew from *Antigonus* a sufficient sum of money, and to the intent that his fraudulent dealing should not be discovered, he left one *Silo* there, with part of his forces, under a pretence of helping *Joseph*, who also was to be feed by *Antigonus*, left

he should raise him some new troubles; which *Antigonus* submitted to, hoping that the *Parthians* would shortly come to his aid.

After the Senate was dismissed, *Anthony*, and *Cesar* went out, leading *Herod* between them, who was also accompanied with the Consuls, and other Magistrates, and so they went all together up into the *Capitol*, to sacrifice to the Gods, and to place there the Decree of the Senate: and the new King, the first day of his reign, was Feasted by *Anthony*, and within seven days after he was by *Anthony* dismissed out of *Italy*, honoured with this unexpected felicity.

He returns home-ward.

Shortly after *Anthony* being to go to the *Parthian* War, had all his Acts, as well past as to come, confirmed by the Senate, whereupon he sent to some Kings by his own authority to pay certain Tributes to him, and he made *Herod* King both of the *Idumeans*, and *Samaritans*.

Herod's Kingdom enlarged.

Herod being returned out of *Italy* to *Ptolemais*, quickly gathered store of Souldiers, both of such as he hired, as also of his own Countrymen, passing through *Galile* against *Antigonus*; being aided by *Silo*, and *Ventidius*, who were commanded by *Anthony* to conduct him into his Kingdom; and as he went on, his forces daily increased, and all *Galile*, except a few, sided with him.

As *Herod* was marching towards *Massada*, where he was necessarily to relieve his Kindred, *Joppa* would not let him pass, wherefore he was to reduce it, lest he should leave to strong a place behind him in his passage to *Jerusalem*: which occasion *Silo* taking hold on (for he was not yet come to *Herod*) dislodged his Army from about *Jerusalem*, whom the *Jews* pursued, but *Herod* meeting him with a small party saved *Silo*, who fought very cowardly.

Herod relieves *Silo*.

He takes *Joppa*.

Besieges *Jerusalem*.

After he had taken *Joppa*, he hastened to *Massada* to raise the siege, and his Army increased daily, many of the Country people joining with him: and having relieved his friends in *Massada*, he hastened towards *Jerusalem*; and though *Antigonus* had laid ambushments for him in divers places, yet he drew near to the City, *Silo* following, and the *Jews* being terrified with his power. When he had encamped

camped on the West side of the City, they upon the walls shot at him with darts and arrowes: others also sallying out in Troops, beat up some of his quarters. Then did *Herod* by an Herald proclaim round about the Walls, that he came for the publick good, and to preserve the City from ruine, and withall, he promised pardon for all former a-ctings. On the other side *Antigonus*, directing his speech to *Silo*, and the *Romans*, told them, that it was unjustly done of the Senate to give the Kingdom to *Herod*, a private man, and an *Idumean*, and so but an half-Jew, whereas by custom it was to be given to one of the High-Priests line. His men also shooting valiantly from the Towers, drave the enemy from the walls: and *Silo* (who was beforehand bribed by *Antigonus*) suborned some of his Souldiers to demand of *Herod* more provisions, and larger pay, and to be withdrawn into commodious winter-quarters. The Army being thus troubled, and begining to dislodg, *Herod* intreated the Captains, and Souldiers of *Silo's* Army, that they would not now forsake him, he being sent both by *Anthony*, *Cesar*, and the Senate, to take possession of the Kingdom; and withall he sent into all the Country, and brought in such store of provisions, that there was no occasion for *Silo*, and his Army to complain. He commanded his Friends also that inhabited about *Samarit*, that they should bring to *Jericho* Corn, Wine, Oyl, Cattle, and other necessities, that the Souldiers for the future might have plenty.

Antigonus having intelligence hereof, sent forth some to intercept the victualers: but *Herod* taking with him some Cohorts, viz. five of the *Romans*, and as many of the *Jews*, with some forreign Souldiers, and a few Horse mixed with them, flew out to *Jericho*, and found the City forsaken of the Inhabitants, and five hundred Families of them were fled to the tops of the Hills, whom he took, and dismissed in safety: But the *Romans* entring the City, plundered it, where they found all sorts of precious movables. *Herod* leaving a Garrison there, returned to his Camp before *Jerusalem*, and then dismissed the *Romans*, sending them into winter-quarters in *Idumea*, *Samarit*, and *Galile*, which Countries were

Herod
takes
Jericho.

lately surrendred to them : But *Antigonus* by bribes obtained of *Silo*, that part of the *Roman Army* should be quartered in *Lydda*, currying thereby favour with *Anthony* : and thus the *Romans* lived in plenty, and without bearing Arms.

His activity.

But *Herod* could not be idle : For sending his Brother *Joseph* into *Idumea*, with a thousand Foot, and four hundred Horse, himself went to *Samaria*, and there settled his Mother, and the rest of his Kindred, whom he had drawn out of *Assida* : Then did he march into *Galile*, where he surprized some places which were yet held by *Antigonus* his Garrison : and when he came to *Sephorus* in snowie weather, *Antigonus* his men fled away, and there he found great store of necessaries. From thence he sent a Troop of Horse, and three Companies of Foot against some Thieves that dwelt in Caves, not far from the Village *Arbelis*, by which means he kept them from doing mischief. Then he marched with his whole Army, whom the enemy met, and encountered resolutely, in so much as *Herods* left wing began to waver, till himself coming on with the main body, encouraged his own men to stand their ground, and caused the enemy to flee, whom he followed as far as *Jordan* : by which victory he brought all *Galile* into his subjection, except those that dwelt in the Caves : and so giving to every one of his Soldiers a hundred and fifty *Drachmes*, and more to his Captains, he dismised them into their winter quarters.

He pursues the Thieves.

Subdues *Galile*.

There came *Silo* to him with his Captains who had wintered with *Antigonus*, and who now would maintain them no longer, commanding the Inhabitants thereabout to spoil the Country of all victuals, and to retire to the mountains that the *Romans* might perish through famine : But *Herod* committed the charge of provisions to his Brother *Pharoras*, and withall, commanded him to rebuild *Alexandrium*, who in a short time furnished the souldiers with abundance of all necessaries, and built again *Alexandrium* that had formerly been dismantled.

Alexandrium rebuilt.

Ventidius in *Syria* sent for *Silo* to assist him against the *Parthians*, but commanded him first to assist *Herod*, and to bring *Herod*, and the rest of the Auxiliaries of those Provinces

Provinces along with him: But *Herod* sending *Silo* to him, went himself with his Souldiers against the Thieves that lived in Caves; and in the mean time made *Ptolomy* Governor of the Country, which fell out ill for him; for being set upon by those who had formerly disturbed the Country, he was slain by them, after which they retired into Fennes, and inaccessible places, infesting with their inrodes, and robberies all the Country: But when *Herod* returned, he made them pay deer for their theveries: for some of them he killed, others flying to their fortified places he pursued, and having taken them, put them to death, and rased their strong holds, and fined the Cities in an hundred Talents.

Ptolomy
slain.

Herod
beats the
Thieves.

About this time *Anthony* commanded *Ventidius* to send *Macharas* to aid *Herod* with two Legions, and a thousand Horse; but when he came, being corrupted by *Antigonus* with money, he would needs go to him, against *Herod's* mind, under a colour of observing his actions: But *Antigonus* suspecting him, denied him admittance, and drave him away with slings, whereby he found that *Herod* had given him good counsell, and blamed himself for not following of it: whereupon he retyred to *Emousus*, and in his march killed all the *Jews* that came to hand, without distinction of friend or foe, being provoked by *Antigonus* his dealing: At which cruelty *Herod* was much grieved, intending to go to *Anthony*, and saying, that he needed other manner of men than those who did him more hurt than his enemies, whereas of himself he was able to subdue *Antigonus*: But *Macharas* overtaking him, intreated him to stay, or if he was resolved to go on, yet at least that he would leave with him his Brother *J. seph*, that with their united forces they might make war upon *Antigonus*. Thus after much intreaty he was reconciled to *Macharas*, and so leaving his Brother *J. seph* with his Army, he commanded him in his absence, that he should not put a'l to the hazard of a battail; but himself halted to *Anthony*, whom he found besieging *Samosita*, a City near to the River *Euphrates*, and carried along with him some Auxiliaries both of Horse, and Foot. *Anthony* entertained him very honourably, and much praised him for his valour.

Macharas
his cruelty.

Herod
goes to
Anthony.

Joseph, unmindsfull of his Brothers command, taking with him his own forces, and five *Romane* Cohorts that were given him by *Macharas*, went towards *Jericho*, purposing to reap the enemies Corn, now that it was ripe, and encamped in the mountains, because the *Romane* Cohorts were raw Souldiers, most of them being lately taken up in *Syria*: yet there he was circumvented by the enemy in the midst of those fastnesses, and having lost six Cohorts, he himself valiantly fighting, was slain: *Antigonus* being in a rage, caused the dead body of *Joseph* to be whipped, though *Pheroras* his Brother, offered fifty Talents to have redeemed it: After this loss, the *Galileans* revolting from their Governours, drowned those that were of *Herods* party in the Lake: In *Idumaea* also there were many innovations.

Joseph is
slain.

Anthony having made peace with his enemy, commanded *Caius Sosius* to assist *Herod* against *Antigonus* with two Cohorts: When *Herod* came to *Diphne*, the Suburbs of *Auziob*, he heard of his Brother *Josephs* death, which caused him to hasten his journey, and coming to Mount *Libanus*, he took thence with him eight hundred men, and one Cohort of the *Romans*, and so came to *Ptolemais*, from whence in the night he passed with his Army through *Galilee*: Here his enemies met him, whom he overcame in fight, and forced them into the Castle, from whence they had issued the day before: Then he assaulted, but was compelled to desist by reason of the extremity of the weather, and to retreat into some neighbouring Villages: but upon the coming of another Cohort from *Anthony*, they in the Castle were so affrighted, that they forsook the same by night: *Herod* then hastned to *Jericho*, purposing to revenge his Brothers death: and being come thither, he feasted his Nobles, and the feast being ended, and his guests dismissed, he retired into his chamber, and presently the room wherein they had supped, being now empty of company, fell down without hurting any, which made many to think that surely *Herod* was beloved of God who had so miraculously preserved him.

Herod overcomes
his Enemies.

A speciall
providence.

The next day six thousand of the enemies came down from the Mountains to fight with him, and their forlorn-
hope

hope with darts and stones so terrified the *Romans* and some of *Herods* Souldiers that they fled, and *Herod* himself received a wound in his side.

Antigenus, desiring to have his strength seem greater than it was, sent one of his Captains, named *Pappus*, with some forces into *Samarina*, whilest himself went against *Ma-charus*. In the meantime *Herod* took in five Towns, and therein put two thousand of the Garrison Souldiers to the sword, and setting the Towns on fire, he went against *Pappus*, and was strengthened by many that came to him out of *Jerico*, and *Judea*; yet was the enemy so confident that he would join battle with him, but in fight, *Herod* overcame them, and being inflamed with a desire to revenge his Brothers death, he pursued them that fled, slew many of them, and followed them into a Village, and there slew many more of them who retreated into houses, the rest fled: After which victory, *Herod* had presently gone to *Jerusalem*, and put an end to the warre, had not the sharpness of the winter hindered him; for now *Antigenus* bethought himself to leave the City, and fly elsewhere for safety.

Herods
beats his
Enemies.

Herod in the evening, when he had dismissed his Friends to refresh themselves, as yet hot in his Armour, went into a chamber, attended with one only servant to wash himself, wherein some of his enemies armed whom fear had forced thither, were hidden; and whilest he was naked, and washing himself, first one, and then a second, and a third, ran out armed with naked swords in their hands, so astonished that they were glad to save themselves without proffring the least hurt to the King. The next day *Herod* amongst others cut off *Pappus* his head, and sent it by way of revenge for his Brothers death, to his Brother *Phariseas*; for it was *Pappus* that with his own hand had slain *J. seph*.

A speciall
provi-
dence.

Herod in the beginning of the third year after he had been declared King at *Bome*, coming with an Army to *Jerusalem*, encamped near the City, and from thence removing to that place where the Walls were fittest to be assaulted, he pitched his Tents before the Temple, intending to attempt them, as *Pompey* had done in times past: and having

Pappus
slain.
Herod
besieges
Jerusalem.

Marries
Mariamne.

encompassed the place with three Bulworks, by the help of many workmen he raised his batteries; fetching materials from all places thereabouts, and appointing fit men to oversee the work; and then himself went to *Samaris* to solemnize his Marriage with *Mariamne*, the Daughter of *Alexander*, the Son of *Arijobulus*, who was formerly betrothed to him.

Herod's
great Army.

The Marriage ceremony being over, *Sosius* came with an Army of Horse and Foot, being sent by *Anthony* to the aid of *Herod*, and *Herod* also took a great party with him from *Samaris* to *Jerusalem*; so that the whole Army being come together, consisted of eleven Legions of Foot, and six thousand Horse, besides the *Syrian* Auxiliaries, which were very many, and so they pitched on the North side of the City. Over this great Army were two Generals, *Sosius*, and *Herod*, who purposed to displace *Antigonus* as an enemy to the people of *Rome*, and to establish *Herod* in the Kingdom according to the Decree of the Senate.

The Jews
fight valiantly.

The Jews being gathered together out of the whole Country, and shut up within the Walls, made a valiant resistance, boasting much of the Temple of the Lord, and saying, that the Lord would not forsake his people in the time of danger. By secret sallies also they burnt up, and spoiled all provision without the City both for Man and Horse, whereby the besiegers began to be pinched: But *Herod* provided against their excursions, by placing ambushments in convenient places, and sending parties to fetch in provision from afar off, so that in a short time the Army was well furnished with all necessaries.

By reason of the multitude of workmen the three Bulworks were soon finished, it being Summer time, so that no untemperateness of weather hindered them: and with his Engins *Herod* often battered the Walls, and left nothing unassayed: but the besieged fought valiantly, and were every way as active and subtle to make void his endeavours; often sallying forth, and firing their works, both those that were finished, and others that were but begun, and coming to hand strokes with the *Romans*, they were nothing inferior

riour to them but only in Martiall skill.

The *Sabbaticall* year now coming, brought a famine upon the besieged *Jews*, notwithstanding which they built a new Wall within that which was beaten down by the battering *Rams*, and so countermined the Enemies mines, that many times they came to handistrokes under ground, and making use of despair instead of courage, they held it out unto the last, though *Pollio*, the *Pharisee*, and *Samias* his Disciple advised them to receive *Herod* into the City, saying, that they could not avoid his being their King by reason of their sins.

A Famine
in *Jerusalem*.

They held out the siege for five moneths space, though there was so great an Army before the City: But at length twenty of *Herods* choicest Souldiers got upon the Wall, and alter them the Centurions of *Sossius*. So that the first Wall was taken on the fortieth day, and the second on the fiftieth, and some Galleries about the Temple were burnt down, which *Herod* charged (though falsely) upon *Antigonus*, thereby to bring him into hatred with the people. When the outward part of the Temple was taken, and the lower City, the *Jews* fled into the inward part of the Temple, and the upper City: and fearing lest they should be hindred from offering their daily Sacrifices unto God, they sent Ambassadors unto *Herod*, to desire leave that such Beasts only might be brought in which were to be sacrificed: This request *Herod* easily granted, hoping that by this means they would leave their obstinacy, and submit to him. But perceiving that this courtesie prevailed not, and that they were still resolute to continue the Sovereignty in *Antigonus*, he gave a generall assault and won the City on the *Kalends* of *January*, on the second moneth, *Cistu*, being the day on which the *Jews* were wont to celebrate a Fast in commemoration of the holy Rowl that was burnt by *Jehoiakim*.

Jerusalem
taken by
Herod.

The City being taken by assault, all places were filled with murthers: the *Romans* being incensed against the *Jews* for holding out so long; and the *Herodian Jews* endeavouring to extirpate the contrary faction, so that there were continuall slaughters in the Porches, and Houses, yea, the

Cruelty.

reverence of the Temple not saving the suppliants: They spared neither age nor sex, nor so much as the little children: and though the Conquerour *Herod* besought and intreated them to forbear, yet none would hear, or obey him, but as if they had been dead, they proceeded in their cruelty.

Antigonus coming down from the upper City, fell at *Sofus* his feet, who nothing pitying his miserable condition, insulted over him, calling him *Mad-m Antigonus*, and with all cast him into prison, and set keepers about him.

Antigonus
imprison-
ed.

And whereas a multitude of Strangers, that *Herod* had hired, came rushing in unto the Temple only, but even into the Sanctuary, some he thought to restrain by intreaty, others by threats and some by force, judging his victory worse than if he had even overthrown it, if any of those things which were not lawful to be seen, were exposed to the view of the profane multitude. He restrained also the plundering of the City as much as in him lay: Intreating *Sofus* to do the like, asking, if the *Romans* would make him King of a Wilderness, the City being so wasted by famine, and murders: *Sofus* answered, that the Souldiers desired the plunder of the City in regard of their hard service in the siege: To which *Herod* replied, that he would recompence every man out of his own Treasury, and making good his promise, he freed the City from further misery: For he bestowed gifts liberally upon the Souldiers, and proportionably upon the Commanders, and bountifully upon *Sofus*: whereupon *Sofus* offering a Crown of Gold unto God, withdrew out of the City, leading *Antigonus* a Prisoner, along with him to *Antony*.

Herod
saves the
City.

Rewards
the Ro-
mans.

Herod being thus settled in *Jerusalem* he advanced those of his own faction, and duly put to death them of the contrary: Amongst whom, he also slew all those of the *Sabbedrim*, who had accused him of a capital crime, before he was King, sparing only *Pollio*, the *Pharisee*, and *Samias*, his Disciple, whom he highly honoured.

Herods
cruelty.

Then did he gather together all the Regall Ornaments, and much silver and gold which he exacted from rich men, all which he gave to *Antony* and his Souldiers. He put to death

death also forty and five of *Antigonus* his chief Noble men, setting watches at their doors that none of them might be carried out under pretence of being dead : and what gold or silver soever was found, was all carried to *Herod*, so that there was no end of the peoples miseries, the covetousness of the needy conquerours consuming all their estates. The fields also lay untilld, because it was the *Sabbaticall* year, in which it was unlawfull to sow the ground.

Of these miserable times, amongst others, were spectators, *Zacharias* the Priest, with his Wife *Elizabeth*: Of the relicts of *Dauids* stock, *Hely*, and *Ioseph*: *Anna* also the Prophetess of the Tribe of *Aser*, and *Simcon* the Just, who received an answer from the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, till he had seen the Lord Christ. Luk. 2. 26.

Who were spectators of it.

Anthony being thus possessed of *Antigonus*, intended to keep him Prisoner to adorn his Triumph ; But *Herod* feared that if *Antigonus* was brought to *Rome* by *Anthony*, he might there contend with him before the Senate for the Kingdom : Considering also how the Nation of the *Jews* hated him, and favoured *Antigonus*; he thereupon gave great sums of money to *Anthony* to cut off his head, which accordingly he did at *Antioch* : *Antigonus* being the first King that was thus put to death by the *Romans* : and in him ended the Principality of the *Hasmoneans* : It being from the Captainship of *Judas Maccabeus* to the death of *Antigonus* a hundred twenty six years, and two or three moneths, and by this means *Herod*, a stranger, got the Kingdom, and was totally freed from his fears.

Anthony
New Antigonus.

Hyrcanus (as we heard before) being carried Prisoner to *Phraates*, the King of the *Parthians*, he intreated him courteously for the Nobility of his descent, and after a time, freeing him from Prison, he suffered him to live in *Babylon*, where were great store of *Jews*, who honoured him no less than as their King and High Priest: and not only they of *Babylon*, but all the rest of the Nation of the *Jews*. did the like, who in old time had been carried captive beyond the River *Euphrates* by the *Assyrians*, of whom there were many millions. But *Hyrcanus* hearing that *Herod* was made King

Hyrcanus
honoured in *Babylon*.

King of the *Jews*, he began to cast his hopes that ways, expecting favour from *Herod*, whose life he had saved when he was called in question before the *Sanhedrim*. He consulted therefore with the *Jews* that came to visit him, about his return into *Judea*, who by all means dissuaded him from it, yet could they not prevail with him. Besides, *Herod* desired by all means to get the poor old man into his clutches, and thereupon wrote to him to get leave of *Phraates*, and the *Jews* that he might return, and that they would not envy him the joint rule with his Son in Law, the time being now come wherein he could requite the favours that *Hircanus* had shewed him, in being his nourisher, and preserver. He sent also his Ambassador to *Phraates* with great Presents, intreating him that he would not hinder him from being thankfull to him that had deserved so well of him. *Hircanus* being forward of himself, dismissed by the *Parthians*, and honourably furnished by the *Jews* for the expences of his journey, he came at last to *Herod*, who entertained him with all honour, gave him the upper hand in all Assemblies, and the more honourable place at all feasts, calling him *Father*, hereby to delude him, lest he should suspect any treachery.

Herods
fubrility.

Hananeel
made
High-
priest.

Herod providing that none of the Nobility should be created High-Priest, sent to *Babylon* for a Priest of a base parentage, whom formerly he had been acquainted with, of the race of those Priests that had been carried away beyond *Euphrates*, whose name was *Ananelius*, or *Hananeel*, and to him he gave the High-Priesthood.

Alexandra
takes it ill.

This *Alexandra* the Daughter of *Hircanus*, the Wife of *Alexander*, the Son of *Aristobulus*, and Mother in Law of *Herod*, took in ill part; for that *Aristobulus* her Son, and Brother of *Marianne* was neglected, and another from a strange place should be made High-Priest: whereupon she wrote to *Cleopatra* Queen of *Egypt*, and *Antonies* darling, that he would procure the High-Priesthood of *Anthony* for her Son. *Cleopatra* neglected her request; but shortly after, *Delilius* a friend of *Antonies* coming into *Judea*, persuaded her to send the Pictures of her Son *Aristobulus*, and of her Daughter

Daughter *Mariamne* to *Anthony*, who then would deny her nothing: This she assented to, and sent them by *Dellius*, who told *Anthony* that they seemed rather to be of a Divine than of a humane race.

Anthony was much inflamed herewith, yet thought it undecent to send for a Lady that was married to *Herod*, shunning also the Jealousie of *Cleopatra*: whereupon he wrote to *Alexandra* to send her Son to him under some honest pretence: But these things coming to the ears of *Herod*, he thought it not safe that *Aristobulus*, now in the flower of his age, being but sixteen, should be sent to *Anthony*, the most potent man amongst the *Romans*, and very much given to his lusts. Wherefore he wrote back, that if the youth did but step out of the Kingdom, all the Country would be up in Arms; the *Jews* hoping for some innovations under a new King, and by this means he satisfied *Anthony*.

Anthony
sends for
*Aristobu-
lus*.

Herod being continually molested with the intreaties of his Wife *Mariamne*, that he would give the High-Priesthood to her Brother *Aristobulus*, it being his right, he called a Councel of his friends, to whom he inveighed against his Mother in Law *Alexandra*, as if she had privately wrought treason against his Kingdom, and had indeavoured by *Cleopatra's* means to translate it to young *Aristobulus*; yet, lest he should seem to neglect both his piety to her, and the rest of that kindred, he told them he would now restore the Priesthood to her Son, which hitherto *Ananelus* had suppli-
ed, by reason of the young mans tender years: *Alexandra* being herewith overjoyed, and withall grieved that she was suspected, fell a weeping, clearing her self of those accusations, and gave him many thanks for her Sons honour, promising that hereafter she would be most obedient unto him. And thus *Herod*, in the life-time of *Ananelus*, gave the High-Priesthood to *Aristobulus*, being then but seventeen years old.

*Aristobu-
lus* made
High-
Priest.

Yet *Herod* fearing lest his Mother in Law *Alexandra* should seek occasion to raise new troubles, confined her to the Palace, and commanded her to do nothing by her own authority: yea, he set so strict a guard over her, that nothing

Alexandra
confined.

She complains to Cleopatra.

was concealed from him of all that she did, to the very expences of her Table. This she took very heavily, and wrote to *Cleopatra*, complaining of her hard condition, and desiring her to yeild her assistance: *Cleopatra* advised her with her Son to fly to her into *Egypt*, which she liked, and therefore provided two Coffins, one for her self, the other for her Son, commanding her servants that were privy to the plot, to carry them out by night, and to convey them to a Ship that was ready prepared to carry them into *Egypt*. This business *Æsopus*, one of her servants, blabbed to *Sabbation*, a friend of *Alexanders*, supposing that he had known all before: which as soon as *Sabbation* knew, though hitherto he was an enemy of *Herods*, as being suspected to have been in the plot of poisoning his Father *Antipater*, he took this occasion of being reconciled to the King, by discovering the matter. *Herod* being thus informed of the plot, dissembled the matter till it was in execution, and then surpris'd her in her flight, and brought her back: Yet did he pardon her fault, not indeed daring to punish her, lest thereby he should discontent *Cleopatra*, that was willing to take any occasion against him: wherefore under a colour of a magnanimous spirit, he made shew as if he pardoned her out of meer clemency.

She is surpris'd by Herod.

The Feast of *Tabernacles* being now come, the new High-Priest *Aristobulus*, being just past seventeen years old, was to offer Sacrifice according to the Law, and being clad in his Pontificall attire, he came to the Altar, and performed the Ceremony with all decency, whose excellent beauty and stature, being higher than was usuall for his age, and carrying in his countenance the honour of his Linage, drew the eyes, and love of all the multitude upon him, every one calling to mind the worthy, and memorable actions of his Grandfather *Aristobulus*, and therefore, as overcome with affections towards him, they were so overjoyed that they could not contain themselves, but openly prayed for him, and wished him all joy, and that more freely than was meet in those jealous times under such a King, proclaiming openly both the memory, and thanks that they owed to

Aristobulus highly honoured.

the Family for all the benefits they had received from it.

As soon as the Feast was ended, *Aristobulus* was entertained at a Banquet by his Mother *Alexandra*: *Herod* also pretended favour to him, and enticed him into a convenient place to sport with him after the manner of young men, and when they were hot, and weary, and left their sport, they walked out to the Fish Ponds, which were near the Court to take the fresh air, where also they beheld some of the servants that were swimming: At last by the perswasion of *Herod*, *Aristobulus* undrest himself and went in amongst them: Then they, who were suborned by *Herod*, as it were in sport and jest, ducked him as he was swimming, holding him under water, and never left off till they had drowned him. This was the end of *Aristobulus* in the eighteenth year of his age, and in the first year of his High-Priesthood, which immediatly returned to *Ananelus*.

He is
drowned.

The report of these things coming to the Women, they were all on an uprore, and did nothing but weep, and howl over the body of the young man: Yea sorrow overspread the whole City, every one bewailing the calamity as if it had been his own: But *Herod* endeavoured by all means to make the people believe as if it had fallen out by chance without his privity, not only feigning sorrow, but tears and grief also: and that he might the more comfort the Women, he buried the body in a most magnificent manner, being liberall to prodigality in adorning his Monument, and in perfumes, and other precious things.

Herods
subtily.

But his Mother *Alexandra*, knowing the treason, though she was oft ready to lay violent hands upon her self, yet repressed her passion, seeming not to be suspicious, till an opportunity of revenge might offer it self.

And shortly after she wrote to *Cleopatra* of the treachery of *Herod*, and of the lamentable death of her Son. *Cleopatra* pitying her misfortune, took a particular care of this business, as if it had been her own, and never rested from perswading *Anthony* to revenge the young mans death: telling him that it was an unpardonable crime, that he who by his help, enjoyed a Kingdom that was anothers right,

Alexandra
complains
to *Cleopatra*.

should rage so insolently against the family of the lawfull Kings. *Anthony* being prevailed with hereby, when he came to *Laodicea* in *Syria*, sent for *Herod* to come before him to answer what should be objected against him about the Death of *Aristobulus*.

Herod
questioned
by
Anthony.

Herod, during the time of his absence committed the care of his Kingdom to his uncle *Joseph*, privately commanding him, that if *Anthony* should do him any mischief, he should presently put his Wife *Mariamne* to death, pretending that he so loved her, that he should esteem it a great wrong if any but himself should enjoy her beauty, yea though it was after his Death.

But cleared
by his
bribes.

When *Herod* came to *Anthony*, he so appeased him with rich presents that he brought on purpose with him from *Jerusalem*, and by his frequent conferences with him, that afterwards *Cleopatra*'s instigations prevailed little: For *Anthony* said, that it was not fit that a King should be accountable for his actions, otherwise he would cease to be a King: For having once given him the honour, the free exercise of his Kingly power was to be admitted unto him. He told *Cleopatra* also, that it was not fit for her too much to meddle with other mens matters.

During *Herod*'s absence, *Joseph* governing the Kingdom, he had occasion many times to converse with *Mariamne*, partly upon business, and partly to do her honour, and in their discourses there was often mention made how much *Herod* loved her, which discourse was laughed at by the Ladies, especially by *Alexandra*: But he was carried on with such a desire of proving the Kings love to them, that he told them what private command the King had given him, supposing this was an infallible argument of his love, because he could neither endure to live without her, nor in death to be disjoyned from her: but the Ladies were not of his mind, rather abhorring the Tyranny of *Herod*, who, though he were dead, yet would he seek their lives.

Presently after a rumour was spread about the City, that *Anthony* had put *Herod* to death, which much troubled all the Court, especially the Ladies: whereupon *Alexandra*

andra perswaded *Joseph*; that, taking them along with him, he should fly to the *Romane* Legions that lay before the City under the command of the Tribune *Julius*, so that if any trouble arose in the City, they might be secured by the *Romans*: adding, that she hoped if *Mariamne* came but once to the sight of *Anthony*, she might obtain any thing of him, yea, even the Kingdom, with whatsoever belonged to the Royall Famely.

Whilest these things were under debate, there came Letters from *Herod*, which dashed all, signifying how *Anthony* had honoured him both in the publick *Assemblies*, and in inviting him to his Feasts, and that, during the accusations of *Cleopatra*: so that he feared her not for the time to come, but hoped shortly to return to them, *Anthony* having given *Cylophylia* unto *Cleopatra* instead of *Judea*, upon condition that she should not hereafter demand *Judea*, nor trouble him any further about that businets.

As soon as these Letters were received, the speech about flying to the *Romans* vanished, but yet their debate about it was not hid; For as soon as *Herod* had brought *Anthony* part of his way against the *Parthians*, he returned into *Judea*, and immediatly his Sister *Salome*, and his Mother *Cyprius* told him what *Alexandra's* counsel was; neither was she herewith contented, but she accused her Husband *Joseph*, as if he had been too familiar with *Mariamne*: and this she did out of an old grudge, because the Queen (a woman of an high spirit) in their womanly brabbles, had upbraided her with her obscure birth.

Herod's
return.

Mariamne by her Oath assured *Herod* of her chastity, who told her again how much he loved her; but she replied, that it was not the part of a lover, to command that if he died, she should be put to death also. *Herod* judging that this secret could never be known, except she had committed adultery with *Joseph*, had much ado to refrain from killing her immediatly: but love overcoming his passion, he refrained; yet did he command *Joseph* to be put to death without suffering him to plead for himself, *Alexandra* also he cast into prison, as the cause of all these evils.

Joseph put
to death.

Gardens
of Balsom.

Cleopatra having brought *Anthony* part of his way towards *Parthia*, returned towards *Egypt*, and by the way, was entertained by *Herod*, who assured unto her that part of *Arabia* which was granted unto her by *Anthony*, to which he added the revenues of *Jericho*, where are great store of the best Date Trees, and where Balsom grows, which being a precious Oynment only grows there, in two Gardens, both which are the Kings, the one of twenty Acres, the other of less.

By this means *Herod* grew into great familiarity with *Cleopatra*, who sought to allure him to her lust, either through her great intemperance, or because she sought by this means to betray him; but though she pretended love to him, yet *Herod* refused, and held a consultation with his friends about killing her, who dissuaded him from it, and therefore having appeased her by great presents, and all manner of obsequiouness, he accompanied her as far as *Pelusium*: yet fearing both her, and the people of the *Jews*, he reserved the Castle as a refuge for himself, laying in as many Arms there as were sufficient for ten thousand men.

Herod payed duly to *Cleopatra* the Tributes of *Judea* and *Arabia*, which *Anthony* had given to her, not thinking it safe to give her any occasion of disgust against him,

He'ed pre-
pares to
assist An-
thony.

Herod being now free from troubles, and having taken *Hyrcaunum*, a Town which hitherto a Sister of *Antigonus* had kept, the *Asian* War brake forth between *Augustus* *Cesar*, and *Mark Anthony*, whereupon *Herod* made great preparation for the assisting of *Anthony*, but he freed him from the trouble, telling him that he needed them not, and so dismissing him, *Herod* returned home with a well-furnished Army, wherewith he invaded *Arabia*, going as far as *Diospolis*, at which place the *Arabians* met him, and after a fierce conflict, the *Jews* gat the victory.

A great
Earth-
quake.

After this *Herod* made many inrodes into *Arabia* in the seventh year of his reign after the death of *Antigonus*, at which time the *Asian* War being begun, *Judea* was shaken with such an Earthquake as never was the like before, in which ten thousand men were overwhelmed by the ruins of

of the houses, yet the Souldiers received no damage, because they lay in the open fields. This being much aggravated by report, so emboldned the *Arabians*, that they laid hold on the Ambassadors of the *Jews*, who, in this their affliction came to demand peace, and slew them, and presently prepared for war with all earnestness.

Herod hearing hereof, encouraged his men, offered Sacrifice according to the custom, and so in all haste, marched with his Army over *Jordan*, and having incamped at *Philadelphia*, there the fight began about the taking of a Castle that lay between him, and the *Arabians*, in which the *Jews* got the better, and after continuall skirmishes, forced the *Arabians* to flight, who in their haste treading one upon another, they lost in all five thousand men: the rest were besieged in their Camp, and extreemly wanting water, they sent Ambassadors to *Herod*, who would not admit of them, and was more eager upon them for offering but fifty Talents for their freedom: They being parched with continuall thirst, came out of their Camp by great companies, offering themselves to the *Jews*, by which means they took five thousand of them in five days: and at last the rest in the Camp came out to fight; but despairing of any good success, there fell of them in the first conflict about seven thousand more. By this overthrow the courage of the *Arabians* was tamed, and *Herod* was declared Governour of that Nation, and so returned home with great Glory.

Herod;
overcoms
the *Arabi-*
ans.

The *Asian* war being finished, wherein *Cesar* finally overthrew *Anthony*, *Alexandra* hoped that *Herod* should be severely punished by *Cesar*, for assisting *Anthony* against him, whereupon she solicited her Father *Hyrcanus*, not any longer to suffer the affliction of their Family, but rather to reserve himself for better times: For which end she advised him to seek for protection and entertainment of *Malchus*, the King of *Arabia*. These solicitations her Father at first repulled, but at last being overcome by her womanish importunity, he sent Letters to *Malchus* by one *Dositheus* a friend of his, desiring him to send some Horsemen to convey him to the Lake *Asphaltitis*, which is distant from

Alexan-
dra's *strest-*
lessness.

Jerusalem about three hundred furlongs. This *Dositheus* was kinsman to *Joseph*, whom *Herod* had put to death, yet, to curry favour with the King, he shewed him the Letters: *Herod* thanked him, and withall desired one curtesie more, that he would seal up the Letters, and give them to *Malchus*, and bring his answer to him. This he did, and the *Arabian* sent back word, that he was ready to entertain *Hyrcanus* and his Family, and all the *Jews* that were of his party, and that he would send a band of Souldiers to conduct them in safety, who should be obedient to *Hyrcanus* in all things. *Herod* having received this answer, called *Hyrcanus* and asked him if he had any confederacy with *Malchus*? who denying it, he produced the Letters in the Councel of the *Sanhedrim*, and commanded him to be put to death.

Herod goes to Caesar.

Herod having thus dispatched *Hyrcanus*, resolved to post unto *Caesar*, and expecting no good from him, because of his great friendship to *Anthony*, he was very jealous of *Alexandra*, lest, taking this opportunity, she should stir up the people to rebell, and so fill the Kingdom with domesticall seditions. Wherefore committing the care of his Kingdom to his Brother *Pheroras*, he left his Mother *Cyprus*, and his Sister *Salome*, and all his kindred in the strong Castle of *Massada*: And commanded his Brother, that if any thing befell him otherwise than well, he should retain the Government of the Kingdom in his own hands: and because his Wife *Mariamne*, by reason of some differences, could not live with his Mother, he placed her with her Mother *Alexandria* in *Alexandria*, committing the custody of them to his Treasurer *Joseph*, and to *Sohemus*, an *Iturian*, under a colour of doing them honour, but yet he gave them this command, that if they should certainly know that any sinister hap befell him, they should presently put both the Ladies to death, and to the uttermost of their power, keep the Kingdom for his Children, and his Brother *Pheroras*.

His cruel command.

Herod having thus settled his affairs at home, posted to *Rhodes* to meet with *Caesar* there, whither when he was come, laying only his Crown aside, but retaining other his Princely Ornaments, he was admitted into *Caesar*s presence, where,

where, with great constancy, and magnanimity of spirit, he freely confessed the love he bore to *Anthony*, as also the supplies he had sent him of Corn, and Money: adding moreover that he was ready with the same Faith to keep friendship with *Cesar*. This *Cesar* exhorted him to, and restoring his Crown to him, exceedingly honoured him. Thus beyond all expectation, is *Herod* again confirmed in his Kingdom, both by the free gift of *Cesar*, and also by a Decree of the Senate, which *Cesar* procured for him: and *Herod* gave great Presents both to *Cesar* himself, and to all his friends about him, even above his ability, to shew the greatness of his mind.

Cesar honours him.

During his absence, his Wife *Mariamne*, and his Mother *Alexandra*, took it very ill that they were shut up in that Castle as in a Prison, so that they could neither enjoy their own, nor make use of other mens goods: especially when by their feminine flatteries they had fished out of *Sohemus*, what *Herod* had commanded concerning them: She then began to wish that he might never return home, supposing that she should live a most intollerable life with him: all which she afterwards dissembled not, but openly confessed what it was that did afflict her. For *Herod* returning beyond all expectation, and relating to *Mariamne* what successes he had, she seemed not to regard them, and at all the carresses that he made her, she would sigh, so that *Herod* plainly perceived the hatred of his Wife against him, inso-much that himself was wavering between love, and hatred towards her.

His wife and mother are full of discontent.

Not long after *Cesar* passing through *Syria* towards *Egypt*, *Herod* entertained him with all Royall magnificence at *Ptolemais*, and shewed all hospitality towards his Army, giving them plenty of all sorts of victuals, by which means he was counted one of *Cesar*s chiefest friends, and used to ride about with him when he mustred his Army. He presented him also and his Frinds with a hundred and fifty Men, all clad in most sumptuous, and rich apparell, yea, he suffered them to want nothing in their march to *Pelusiūm*, through barren places, and such as wanted water, yet did he

Herods bounty to *Cesar*, and his Army.

provide plentifully for them, with which the Souldiers were much delighted. He also presented *Cesar* with eight hundred Talents: yea, he gave such satisfaction to all, that they confessed that it was greater than the Kingdom could afford.

Herod is jealous of his wife.

Herod wavering between love and hatred towards his Wife *Mariamne*, was continually incensed against her by the false accusations of his Sister *Salome*, and his Mother *Cypros*, who laboured to kindle his hatred and jealousy against her: whereupon, probably he had proceeded rigorously with her, but that news came seasonably that *Anthony* and

He meets Cesar.

Cleopatra were both dead, and that *Cesar* had won *Egypt*, and was coming back, whom in all haste he went to meet, and so left his Family as it was. At his departure he commended *Sobemus* to *Mariamne*, professing that he owed him much respect for the care he had had of her: and gave to him also the Government of a part of *Judea*.

Cesar enlarges his Government.

Herod meeting with *Cesar* before he was come out of *Egypt*, in confidence of his Friendship, spake freely to him, and was highly honoured by him: For he bestowed upon him the four hundred *Galatians*, who were formerly of *Cleopatra's* Guard, to be his Guard, and restored to him that part of his Country which *Cleopatra* had seized upon, and added to his Kingdom *Gadara*, and *Hippon*, and *Samaria*; and by the Sea-side, *Gaza*, and *Anthedon*, and *Joppa*, and the Tower of *Straton*, which added much splendour to his Kingdom.

Herods suspicions of his wife are increased.

In *Cesar's* return through *Syria*, *Herod* conducted him as far as *Antioch*. At his return, for the space of a whole year, suspicions increased daily between him and his Wife *Mariamne*, she neglecting his caresses, and oft upbraiding him either with the death of her Grandfather *Hyrcanus*, or her Father *Aristobulus*, so that *Herod* could scarce refrain from striking her, and *Salome* by the noise, perceiving that *Herod* was much moved, she sent in the Butler, whom long before she had suborned for that end, who told *Herod* that he was solicited by *Mariamne* to deliver him a love potion, which he had by him, but what it was he knew not. *Herod* hereupon

upon examined the most faithfull servant of *Mariamne* by torture, being assured that she would attempt nothing without his privy, who not enduring the torments, confessed that she was offended for something that *Sohemus* had declared unto her, which when the King heard, he cryed out, that *Sohemus*, who had ever been most faithfull both to him, and the Kingdom, would never have spoken of these things, had there not been some more secret familiarity between them than was fitting; and thereupon he commanded *Sohemus* to be apprehended and put to death; and having called his Friends to Counsel, he accused his Wife for practising to poison him, which he so aggravated, that all that were present perceived that he had a mind that she should be condemned, which was accordingly done by the generall consent of them all: and whereas they thought that the execution should not be over speedy, but rather that she should be secured in some of the Kings Castles, *Satome* exceedingly urged the King that she should presently be put to death, for fear lest there should be some commotion among the people she being alive and in Prison: and thus was *Mariamne* brought to her death.

Mariamne
condemned to
death.

When her Mother *Alexandra* saw her going to execution, and considered that she must look for the same at *Herods* hands, that she might not seem to be guilty of the same crime, she began to upbraid her daughter as being wicked, and ingratifull towards her Husband, saying, *but she deserved death who durst attempt so baineous an act.* Whilst she counterfeited these things, and made as if she would have pulled her Daughter by the hair, they that were present condemned her hypocrisie; but she that was led to death returned her no answer, but refuted the false accusation, with a resolute countenance, and mind, and underwent her death without fear.

Her mother's
Hy
poerisie.

Mariamnes
Death.

She being dead, *Herod* began to be more inflamed with love towards her, often calling upon her Name and lamenting her death beyond decency; and although he sought to divert his grief by pleasures, feasting, and drinking, yet all availed nothing. Whereupon he cast off the care of his

Herod excessive
grief for
her.

Kingdom, and so far gave up himself to sorrow, that he would bid his servants call *Mariamme*, as though she were yet living.

A great
Plague fol-
lows.

Herods
Melan-
choly and
sicknesse.

As *Herod* was thus tormenting himself, there came a great Plague, which swept away a great part both of the Nobility, and Commons, every one judging that this Plague was sent by God for the unjust death of the Queen. The Kings discontents being increased hereby, he at last hid himself in a solitary Wilderness under a pretence of hunting; where still afflicting himself, he fell into a great sickness, which was accompanied with an inflammation and great pain in his neck, so that he began to rave; neither could any applications ease him, but rather made the disease more painfull, so that those about him began to despair of his life: and his Physicians, partly because of the stubbornness of the disease, and partly because in so great danger there was not any free election of diet, they gave him leave to eat whatsoever he would.

Alexan-
dras trea-
son and
Death.

Herod lying thus sick in *Samaria*, and *Alexandra* being at *Jerusalem*, she endeavoured to get the two Castles of the City into her hands, the one adjoyning to the Temple, the other situate in the City: For which end she solicited the Governours of them to deliver them up unto her, and to the Children of her and *Mariamme*, lest that *Herod* being dead, they should be seized upon by others: But they who had ever been faithfull to *Herod*, were now much more diligent in their Office, both out of an hatred of *Alexandra*, and because they thought it a great offence to despair of the recovery of their Prince. Hereupon they presently sent messengers to *Herod*, to acquaint him with *Alexandra's* attempt, who thereupon commanded her to be slain. At length overcoming his disease, he recovered his strength both of body and mind, but grew so cruell, that upon the least occasion he was ready to put any one to Death.

Herod
grows
cruel.

Salome
- leaves her
husband
and comes
to Herod.

Salome, *Herods* Sister, having been married to *Cossabornus* an *Idumean*, a difference now arising betwixt them, she, contrary to the custom of the *Jews*, sent him a Bill of Divorce, and came away to her Brother *Herod*, telling him that she preferred

preferred his love before her tie to her Husband: the reason which she pretended was, that *Cossabernus* had practised some innovations with *Lysimachus*, *Antipater*, and *Dositheus*, confirming it from this, because he had privily kept in his Country the Children of *Bebai*, now for the space of twelve years from *Herods* taking of *Jerusalem*: As soon as *Herod* heard this, he sent some to their hiding places, and killed them, with many others, to the intent that none should remain of the kindred of *Hyrcanus*: He also took out of the way all such as excelled in any dignity, that he might do whatsoever seemed him good, there being none to resist him. Herods cruelty.

Herod by these practises growing more secure, he began to degenerate more and more from his Country fashions, violating them by forreign inventions. For first he instituted wrestlings every fifth year in the honour of *Caesar*, for the exhibiting of which, he began to build a Theatre in *Jerusalem*, and an Amphitheatre in the plaine, both of them very sumptuous for the workmanship, but clean contrary to the Jewish customes: Yea he would have this solemnity to be inrolled, and to be proclaimed in the neighbouring Countries, and to remoter Nations, and by propounding great rewards, he invited, not only those that were skilfull wrestlers, but also excellent Musicians, and such as played on severall instruments. Yet that which above all troubled the *Jews*, were the Trophees, which being covered with Armour, they thought to be Images, forbidden by their Law; but *Herod* to satisfy them, commanded the Armour to be taken off, and shewed them that they were meer stocks of wood, whereupon all their anger was turned into laughter. He instituted Games to the discontent of the Jews.

Herod having many wayes provoked the *Jews*, ten Citizens of *Jerusalem* made a Conspiracy against him, amongst whom one was blind, who made one, not because he could do any thing, but to shew how ready he was to suffer with those that defended their Countie rights: *Herod* had appointed secret spies to discover such plots, one of which had fished this matter out, and acquainted *Herod* with it, who A conspiracy against Herod.

The conspirators
are put to
Death.

caused them to be apprehended, and when they were brought before him, with undaunted countenances they drew out their weapons from under their garments, protesting, that, not out of any private respect, but in the behalf of the publick weal, they had undertaken this conspiracy. Then were they led away, and put to death with all manner of tortures. Not long after, their accuser being hated of all men, was slain by some, and being cut in pieces, was thrown to the Dogs. Yet were the authors hereof concealed, till after long, and wearisome inquisitions, it was by torture wrung out from some silly women who were privie to it. When *Herod* had thus found out the authors, he punished them with death, and their whole Families.

Herods,
cruelty.
He fortified
Samaria, and
built a
Temple
there.

Herod the better to secure himself from the seditions of the tumultuous people, in the thirteenth year of his reign, began to fortifie *Samaria*, which was a days journey from *Jerusalem*, and called it *Sebastie* (or *Augustia*.) The circuit of it was twenty furlongs, in the middest whereof he built a Temple of a furlong and an half, which he wonderfully adorned, and so ordered, that many of the Souldiers, and of the neighbouring Nations came and dwelt there.

He built
severall
Castles.

Herod also built another Citadel to be as a bridle to the whole Nation, namely the Tower of *Straton*: Also in the great plain he built a Castle and chose of his Horsemen by lot, to keep it. Another he built in *Galilee*, and one in *Peræa*: which Castles being so conveniently disposed in severall parts of the Country, took away from the people all opportunity of rebellion.

Plague,
and Fa-
mine.

About this time very grievous calamities beset the Nation of the *Jews*. First there was a long drought, after which followed a Famine: After the Famine, by reason of their ill diet, there came divers sicknesses, and the Plague; and *Herod*, having not wherewithall to supply the publick wants, was forced to melt the gold and silver that was in his Pallace, not sparing any thing for the curiosity of the workmanship: no not so much as the vessels which were for his own daily use. These being turned into mony, he sent to buy provisions into *Egypt*,

Herods
care to
provide
for the
people.

where

where *Petronius* was Governour under *Cesar*, who though he was pestered with multitudes that repaired to him upon the like necessity, yet being *Herods* friend, he gave his servants leave to export Corn, and was assisting to them, both in the buying, and carriage of it.

When the Corn was brought to *Herod*, he was very carefull to see it divided, first to such as had most need, and then because there were many who by reason of old age, or some other weaknesse, were unable to dresse it themselves, he appointed them certain Bakers to provide their food for them: By this means he procured the good will of the people, and the praise of a prudent and provident Prince.

He provided also for his subjects against the sharpnesse of the winter, taking care that none should want clothing, their Cattel being dead, and wool, and other materials tailing. And when he had made provision for his own People, he took care also for the neighbouring Cities of the *Syrians*, to whom he allowed seed for sowing of their ground: and the Castles, and Cities; and those of the Common people, who had great Families, coming to him for succour, he found a remedy for them also: Inasmuch that he gave to those that were not his Subjects ten thousand Cores of Corn, each Core containing ten *Athenian* bushels.

His bounty to strangers.

As soon as the Corn was ripe for harvest, *Herod* dismissed fifty thousand Men, whom he had fed in the time of Famine into their own Countries: by which diligence he restored the almost ruined estate of his own Subjects, and did not a little relieve his neighbours, who groaned under the same calamities.

At the same time also he sent aid to *Cesar*, to wit, five hundred chosen Men of his own Guard whom *Julius Caesar* led into the *Arabian* Wars, where they did most excellent service.

He sends aid to Caesar.

Herod also built himself a Pallace in *Sidon*, in which he built two very large and stately Houses, with which the Temple it self could in no wise compare, and called one of them

He built himself a Pallace.

them by the name of *Cesar*, and the other by the name of *Agrippa*.

He makes
a new
High
Priest: and
marries
Mariamne.
He built
another
Palace

Herod having removed from the Priesthood *Jesus* the Son of *Phales*, made *Simon* (a Priest of *Jerusalem*, the Son of *Boethus* of *Alexandria*) Priest in his room, and took also his Daughter *Mariamne* to Wife, that was the most beautifull Virgin of that age.

The marriage solemnities being over, he began to build another new Palace, unto which he adjoynd a Town, which he called *Herodion*, in a place distant from *Jerusalem*, about sixty furlongs towards *Arabia*, in the place where he had overcome the *Jews* when he was thrust out by the Arms of *Antigonus*.

And *Sebasto*, and
a stately
Haven.

He built also *Sebasto*, and having finished that, he began to build another most magnificent City in a place by the Sea-side, where *Straton* stood, which he called *Cæsaria*, and added to it an Haven of admirable work, equall in bigness to the Haven *Piræus*: all which he finished in twelve years space, sparing neither labour nor cost about them.

He sent
his sons to
Cæsar.

Then did he send his two Sons, *Alexander*, and *Archipobulus* (whom he had by *Mariamne* the *Asmonæan*) to *Rome* to *Cæsar*, to be there educated under him, for whom Lodgings were prepared at the House of *Pollio*, *Herod's* great Friend. *Cæsar* entertained the young men very courteously, and gave *Herod* power to make which of his sons he pleased the heir of his Kingdom: he added also to his Government *Trachonitis*, *Batanaea*, and *Auranitis*.

Cæsar enlarged his
Kingdom.

He repressed the
thieves.

When *Herod* had received *Trachonitis*, he took guides, and went to the Den of the Thieves, restraining their villanies, whereby the people lived in quiet: But *Zenodorus*, the former Governour, being moved, partly thorough envy, and partly with the losse of his Government, went to *Rome* to accuse *Herod*, but could effect nothing.

He went
to *Agrippa*.

About this time *Herod* went to *Mychene*, to salute his chiefeft friend *Agrippa*, and so returned into *Judea*: and presently after some Citizens of *Gadara* went to *Agrippa* to accuse *Herod*, whom he vouchsafed not so much as to hear, but sent them bound to *Herod*: Yet did he spare them:

for

for, though he was inexorable towards his own people, yet did he willingly contemn, and forgive injuries received from strangers.

Zenodorus had solemnly sworn to the *Gadarens*, that he would do his utmost with *Cesar* to get them freed from the jurisdiction of *Herod*, and to be annexed to the Province of *Cesar*: Many of themselves also exclaimed against *Herod*, calling him cruell Tyrant, complaining to *Cesar* of his violence and rapines, and for rasing, and robbing their Temple: Yet was *Herod* nothing here with terrified, being ready to answer for himself: But *Cesar* used him courteously, and was nothing alienated from him for all these tumultuous complaints: The *Gadarens* therefore perceiving the inclination of *Cesar* and his Friends towards *Herod*, despairing of good success, and fearing to be delivered into *Herods* hands, some of them cut their own throats, others fearing torments brake their own necks, or drowned themselves in the River, and thus, seeming to forejudg themselves, *Cesar* absolved *Herod* from all their accusations.

Herod accused to Cesar.

Zenodorus also having his bowels burst, through much blood that came from him, ended his life at *Antioch* in *Syria*; whereupon *Augustus Cesar* gave his Tetrarchy to *Herod*: he made him also one of the Governours of *Syria*, commanding the rest of the Governours of that Province, to do nothing without his advice.

Cesar still enlarged his Dominion.

Herod bestowed upon his Brother *Phariseas* a hundred Talents out of the revenues of his Kingdom, and begged a Tetrarchy for him of *Cesar*, to the intent that if himself should happen to dy, *Phariseas* estate might be secure, and not subject to *Herods* children.

Cesar coming into the East, having settled his affairs there *Herod* conducted him to the Sea-side, and so returned into his own Kingdom, where he built a goodly Temple in honor of *Cesar*, all of white Marble, near to *Panion*, at the foot of which mountain were the spring-heads of *Jordan*: He also remitted to his subjects some part of their Tribute, under pretence that he would ease them after the great dearth, but indeed to appease the minds of his subjects,

Herod built a Temple: and eased his Subjects.

His jea-
lousies.

who were offended at his vast works, which seemed to tend to the distraction of Religion and good manners, as was commonly talked. As also to prevent these reports, he forbad all private meetings in the City, and to frequent Feastings: He had spies also who would mingle themselves in all companies, and mark what people said: yea himself would go about in the night in the habit of a private person, and mingle himself in the company of people to hear what they thought of him: and such as peremptorily disliked his doings, he would punish without all mercy: the rest of the multitude he bound to him by Oath, requiring that they should not depart from their fidelity, and duty: Yea he required this Oath of many of the *Pharisees*, as of *Pollio*, and *Sameas*, &c. which though he could not get them to take, yet did he not punish them as he did others, in regard of that respect that he bore to *Pollio*: Neither did he impose it upon the *Essaens*, whom he much esteemed for one *Manaberus* sake, who was a Prophet, and when *Herod* was but a boy, he saluted him King of the *Jews*, and foretold that he should Reign above thirty years.

Here-
buile the
Temple at
Jerusalem.

Herod in the eighteenth year of his Reign, propounded to the *Jews* his building the Temple at *Jerusalem*, whom when he saw troubled least, when he had pulled down the old, he should not be able to finish a new one, he told them, that the old Temple should remain whole as it was, till all the materials necessary for the new Fabrick, should be fully prepared: neither did he deceive them for he provided a thousand wagons to carry stones, and he chose out of all the Artificers ten thousand that were the most exquisite workmen, and a thousand Priests, clothed in their Priestly garments at his cost, who were not altogether ignorant of the *Masons*, and *Carpenters* Art, to oversee them.

All necessary materials for this stately work being provided in the space of two years, *Herod* began to build the Temple at *Jerusalem*, forty six years before the first Passover of the Ministry of Christ and therefore that text *Joh. 11. 20.* should be thus translated, *This Temple hath been built forty*

six years hitherto : So the learned Primate of Ireland, and our Country-man *Lydiat*, read it,

Indeed the building of the Temple under *Zorobabel* began in the first year of the Monarchy of *Cyrus*, and after some interruptions, was finished in twenty years space, viz. in the sixth year of *Darius Hystaspes*: but the magnificent building of it, begun by *Herod* at this time was finished in nine years space and an half : and truly the riches of *Herod* alone, were not sufficient to perfect so magnificent a structure, but all the holy treasures of many ages, that were sent to them from all the parts of the world to *Jerusalem*, were spent about it.

Nine years it was in building.

Not long after *Herod* set sail for *Italy*, to salute *Caesar*, and to see his Children at *Rome*, and as he passed through *Greece*, he was, not only present at, but Judge of the *Olympick* exercises, where, observing that they did not answer the resort that was to them, through the poverty of the *Elienses*, he bestowed towards them an yearly renew, that so their Sacrifices might be made the more splendid, as also other things that tended to the gracing of so great a meeting : For which bounty he was declared perpetuall Judge of those exercises.

He goes into Italy.

His bounty.

When he came to *Rome*, *Caesar* entertained him courteously, and delivered to him his Sons sufficiently instructed in the Liberal Sciences, and so from thence he went into *Galatia*.

At *Jerusalem*, by the diligence of the Priests, the building of the Temple properly so called, that contained the Holy, and the Holy of Holies, was finished in a year and an half ; during which time, it is reported that it never rained in the day time, but only in the nights : and in the eight years following, the Porches, the Ranges, and the rest of the buildings about the Temple were all finished.

When *Alexander*, and *Arithobulus* were returned into *Judea*, and had gained all mens love, *Salome* the Sister of *Herod*, and her Faction, fearing that at some time or other they would reveng their Mothers death, cast out a rumour amongst the people, that they hated their Father, because he had caused their Mother to be slain : But *Herod* did not believe

Herods
Sons mar-
ried.

Etting no ill, used them with all Honour, as they deserved : and because they were now grown to mens estate, he provided them Wives : for *Alexander, Bernice*, the Daughter of *Salome*, and for *Aristobulus, Glaphira*, the Daughter of *Arche-laus*, the King of the *Cappadocians*.

Herod en-
tertains
Agrippa.

Then *Herod* hearing that *Agrippa* was again come into *Asia*, he went to him, and begged of him that he would come into his Kingdom as to his Friend, and Guest ; and as he came, he entertained him in all the Cities that he had newly built, shewing him the publick buildings, and presenting, both to himself and friends all kind of delights which might set forth his magnificence, at *Sebaste*, and the Port of *Casarea*, and in the Castles of *Alexandriou, Herodion*, and *Hyrkania*. He brought him also into the City of *Jerusalem*, where all the People met him in their best, and Festi-vall attire, and with acclamations of joy : *Agrippa* also sacrificed an *Hecatombe* to God, and feasted the People ; and though he would willingly have stayed longer there, yet, fearing storms, the Winter now drawing on, he hastened to sail into *Jonis*, both he and his Friends having been honoured with great presents by *Herod*.

Herods
great
bounty.

As soon as the Spring came, *Herod* hearing that *Agrippa* was going with an Army to *Bosphorus*, made hast to meet him, and taking his way by *Rhodes*, and *Chios*, he came to *Lesbos*, thinking there to find him : But *Agrippa* being driven back by contrary North-winds *Herod* staid at *Chios*, to whom many came privately to salute him, upon whom he bestowed many princely gifts, and when he perceived that the Gate of the City that was thrown down in the War against *Methridates*, as yet lay buried in its ruins, and that by reason of the poverty of the Inhabitants, it could not by them be restored to its former beauty and greatness, he bestowed upon them so much mony as would abundantly suffice to finish it, and exhorted them to hasten the restoring of their City to its former beauty, and grandure.

As soon, as the wind served, he left *Chios*, and sailed to *Mytilene*, and from thence to *Byzantium*, and there understanding

derstanding that *Agrippa* had already passed the *Cyanian* Rock, he followed him with all speed, and overtook him at *Sinopi*, a City in *Pontus*, where, beyond *Agrippa's* expectation, he arrived with his Navy: His coming was very grateful to him, and they embraced each other with singular affection, *Agrippa* looking upon it as an evident argument of his fidelity and friendship, that leaving his manifold occasions, he would come to him in so seasonable a time. Wherefore *Herod* still abode with him in the Army, was companion with him in his labors, and partaker of his counsels: He was also present with him when he went to be merry, and was the only man that he used in difficult matters, for the love that he bore unto him.

His love
to *Agrippa*

Agrippa having forced the *Bisphorans* to lay down their Arms, in his whole journey thorough many countries and Cities, he gratified *Herod* in many things, and at his intreaty, relieved the necessities of many: If any one needed an intercessor to *Agrippa*, *Herod* was the only man, by whom he could obtain his suit and assisted many in whatsoever they had need of.

Agrippa's
love to
him.

When they were come into *Jonia*, a great multitude of *Jews* that inhabited that Country, complained of the great injuries that they suffered from the *Jonians*, who would not permit them to live after their own Laws, but that upon their Festivall days, they haled them before their Tribunals, and forbade them to send holy money to *Jerusalem*, which also they perverted to secular affairs, contrary to the priviledges granted them by the *Romans*: *Herod* took care that *Agrippa* should hear their complaints, and allowed them *Nicholas Damascene*, one of his friends, to plead their cause, which when he had largely performed before *Agrippa* (many honourable *Romans*, and some Kings and Princes being present) the *Grecians* denied the thing, excusing themselves that the *Jews* were troublesome to them: But they on the contrary proved that they were freeborn Citizens, and that they lived according to their own Laws without injuring of any; wherefore *Agrippa* answered, that both for his friend *Herod's* sake, as also because

Herod's fa-
vour to
the *Jews*.
in *Jonia*.

that which they demanded was just, he would gratifie them therein: He ordered therefore that the priviledges which were formerly granted them, should remain inviolable, and that none should molest them for living after their Country Laws. Then *Herod* rose up, and gave him thanks in the name of them all: and so after mutuall embraces, they took their leave each of other, and departed from *Lesbos*.

Herod in gratiares him elf with the Jews.

Herod in a few days after, having a prosperous gale; arrived at *Casarea*, and from thence went to *Jerusalem*, where, calling all the people together, he gave them an account of his journey, and told them what immunities he had procured for the *Jews* in *Asia*; and to win them the more to his friendship, he professed that he would remit to them the fourth part of his Tribute; with which bounty they being exceedingly taken, wished him all happinets, and departed with great joy.

He is incensed against his Sons.

Presently after his return, he was greatly incensed by the false accusations and artifices of his Sister *Salome*, and his Brother *Pheroras*, against his two Sons that he had by *Mariamne*, *Alexander*, and *Aristobulus*: whereupon to take down their spirits, he began to use them more hardly, and publickly he put hopes of the Kingdom into his Son *Antipater*, whom he begat when he was a private man, his Mother also being a woman of mean parentage, whom formerly he had banished the City in favour to his two other Sons, and writing often unto *Cesar* for him privately, he gave him great commendations: and at the intreaties of *Antipater*, he recalled also his Mother *Doris*, whom he had put away when he married *Mariamne*.

He visits Agrippa.

Agrippa after his ten years Government in *Asia*, being now to depart, *Herod* failed to salute him, taking with him of all his Sons only *Antipater*, whom he delivered to *Agrippa* with many gifts, to be carried to *Rome*, and to be brought into *Casars* favour.

Antipaters subtilty.

Antipater was much honoured at *Rome*, being commended to all his Friends by his Fathers letters: and though he was absent, yet desisted he not by writing to incense his Father

Father against the Sons of *Mariamne*, pretending his great care of his Fathers safety, but in truth, to make way for his succession in the Kingdom. About this time *Agrippa* died, and being brought into the market place of *Rome*, *Augustus* commended him in a Funerall Oration.

Herod being now incensed against his Sons, *Alexander* and *Aristobulus*, he sailed with them to *Rome* to accuse them before *Augustus*, and not finding him there, he followed him as far as *Aquileia*, before whom he accused them of treachery against him; but the young men satisfied all that were present by their Apology for themselves mixed with prayers and tears, so that they were reconciled to their Father. After which, giving thanks unto *Caesar*, they departed together, and with them *Antipater* also, who pretended much joy that they were received into favour again.

Herod accuseth his Sons.

A few dayes after *Herod* gave *Caesar* three hundred Talents, and again *Caesar* gave him half the revenues of the mettall Mines in *Cyprus*, and the other half also he committed to his oversight, and having honoured him with other gifts of Hospitality, he gave him leave to choose which of his Sons he pleased to be his successor, or if he liked it better to divide his Kingdom amongst them, which when he was about to do, *Caesar* told him that he would not suffer but that he should have his Kingdom during his life in his own power, as well as his Sons.

Caesars favours to *Herod*.

In *Herods* absence there was a rumour spread in *Judea* that he was dead, whereupon the *Trachonites* revolting, fell to their old trade of thieving; but by the diligence of his Captains that he had left in his Kingdom, they were subdued, and forty of the Chief of them, being terrified by the punishment of those that were taken, left their country and fled into *Arabia Nabathea*, where they were entertained by *Sileus* (who was an enemy to *Herod*, because he had denyed him his sister *Salome* to wife) who gave them a place to dwell in that was well fortified.

Thieves subdued.

Herod and his Sons sailing homeward, arrived at *Sebaste* in *Cilicia*, where they met with *Archelaus* King of *Cappadocia*, who courteously entertained *Herod*, much rejoycing

Herod returns with his Sons.

joycing that his Sons were reconciled to him, and that *Alexander* had fairely answered the crimes that were objected against him: and so giving rooy all gifts each to other, they parted.

Herod being returned into *Iudea*, called the people together, and told them what he had done in his voyage, and declared to them that his sons should reign after him, first *Antipater*, and then *Alexander* and *Aristobulus*, that he had by *Mariamme*.

Agrippa
born.

About this time, in the year of the world 3994, *Agrippa* the first King of the *Jews* of that name, was born, who dyed when he was fifty four years old, being struck by an Angel, *Act. 12. 23*. Also that lame man was now born, who being above forty years old, was healed by *Peter*, at the Beautifull gate of the Temple, *Act. 4. 23*.

Herod's
great
buildings.

Herod having finished *Casarea Stratonis* in the twenty eighth year of his Reign, he dedicated it with great solemnity, and many sports and pastimes: After which he began to build another Town in a field called *Capharsala*, which he called *Antipatria*, after his Fathers name; and a Castle also, which he called *Cyprus* after his Mothers name. In honour also of his dead brother, he built in *Ierusalem* a very faire Tower, not inferiour to the *Egyptian Pharos*, and called it *Phasalus*: and afterwards he built a Town of the same name in the valley of *Iericho*, from whence the country thereabouts is called *Phaselus*.

He robs
Dauids
Sepulchre

Herod having wasted his wealth by his great prodigality, and now wanting mony, after the example of *John Hyrcanus*, in the night, without the knowledge of the people, he opened *Dauids* sepulchre, where, though he found no mony, yet he found great store of precious things, and ornaments of gold, which he took away: for the expiation of which fact, he afterwards built a most sumptuous Monument of white Marble at the entrance of the Sepulchre.

Antipaters
subtily.

Antipater, suborning other men falsely to accuse his Brethren, *Alexander* and *Aristobulus*, takes upon him their defence, that making a shew of good will to them, he might

might the easier oppress them : and by these subtilties he so wrought upon his Father, that he thought him to be his only preserver. Hereupon *Herod* commended his Steward *Ptolomy* unto *Antipater*, and communicated all his Counsels with his Mother *Doris*, so that all things were done as they pleased, and still the King was embittered against those, whom it was their profit that he should be angry with.

About this time *Pheroras* (*Herods* Brother) fell so madly in love with his own servant, that he refused marriage with *Cypros*, the Kings Daughter, that was offered him by his Brother: He also accused *Herod* to his Son *Alexander*, as if he had been greatly in love with his Wife *Glaphyra*: for both which *Herod* was highly displeased with him.

In the year of the world 3996, he began to be diseased, who, lying at the Pool of *Bethesda*, was after 38 years, restored to health by Christ, *Joh. 5. 5.*

Alexander, by the subtilties of his adversaries, being even driven to desperation, was at this time reconciled to his Father by *Archelaus*, King of the *Cappadocians*, who came to *Jerusalem* to visit *Herod*, and being accounted one of *Herods* chief Friends, received great gifts from him, and when he departed, *Herod* brought him as far as *Antioch*.

Alexander
reconciled
to his Fa-
ther.

Not long after *Herod* went a third time to *Rome* to visit *Caesar*, in whose absence those Thieves of *Trachonis*, whom *Syllens* had entertained, with their inrodes infested, not only *Judea*, but all *Calisyria*; *Syllens* affording them both impunity, and security.

Herod goes
again to
Rome.

Herod being returned from *Rome*, celebrated the Dedication of the Temple, reedified by him in the space of nine years and a half, on the very birth day of his Kingdom, which he was wont to celebrate with great joy, at which time he Sacrificed unto God three hundred Oxen, and other of the people offered an innumerable company of Sacrifices, every one according to his ability.

Here-
turns and
dedicates
the Tem-
ple.

Herod finding that in his absence his People had sustained much damage by those Thieves of *Trachonis*, and seeing he could not subdue them, being under the protection of the *Arabian*, he therefore entred *Trachonis*, and destroyed

Thieves
do much
mischief.

their Families, which yet did but incense them the more; so that, contemning all dangers, they molested Herods Countries with continuall excursions, driving, and carrying away the peoples goods.

Herod, hereupon sent to the Presidents of *Syria*, *Saturninus*, and *Volumnius*, desiring that he might have the punishing of the Thieves of *Trachonis*, who by their incursions had often wasted his Country. They, when they heard hereof, being increased to the number of a thousand, began to waste both fields, and villages, cutting the throats of all that fell into their hands; wherefore *Herod* demanded those Thieves to be delivered over to him, and withall, required the sixty Talents that he had lent *Obodas* upon *Syllaus* his security, who had thrust *Obodas* from the Government, and now ruled all himself: But *Syllaus* denied that the Thieves were in *Arabia*, and deferred also to pay the money; whereupon the business was debated before *Saturninus*, and *Volumnius*, and in conclusion it was determined by them; that within thirty dayes space, both the money should be repaid, and the runaways of both Countries should be delivered up, and *Syllaus* swore by the Fortune of *Cesar* before the Presidents of *Syria*, that he would perform what was enjoyned.

Herod destroys the Thieves.

But when the time was expired, *Syllaus* being unwilling to stand to the agreement, went to *Rome*: and in the mean time *Herod*, by the permission of *Saturninus*, and *Volumnius*, to punish those obstinate people, raised an Army, entred *Arabia*, and marched as far in three days as they used to do in seaven; and when he came to the Castle where the Thieves kept, he took it at the first assault, and demolished a Fortrefe also called *Raeptu*: and when a Captain of the *Arabians* came to their aid, they joyned battell, in which few of the *Herodians* were slain, but there dyed twenty five of the *Arabians* together with their Captain, whereupon the rest fled. Being thus revenged of the Thieves, he brought three thousand *Idumeans* into *Trachona*, to restrain the thieveries committed there, and certified the *Romane* Generals, that he had only used that power which they had granted against those obstinate *Arabians*, which upon enquiry, they found to be true. There

There were Letters posted away to *Rome* to *Syllaus*, that related matters far otherwise, aggravating every thing after their manner, by which Lyes *Caesar* was so much incensed against *Herod*, that he wrote threatening Letters to him, because he had marched with an Army out of his own Kingdom without his leave: and he was so far provoked, that he would not hear his Ambassadors, but dismissed them without an answer.

Caesar incensed against him.

The *Trachonites*, and *Arabians* taking hold of this occasion, molested the Garrison of the *Idumeans* that *Herod* had set over them; but *Herod* being affrighted with *Caesar's* anger, was fain to connive at it.

About this time *Obodas*, King of *Arabia Nabathæa* dyed, and one *Aneas* succeeded him, who changed his name into *Aretas*; which *Syllaus* hearing of at *Rome*, endeavoured by false accusations to have him thrust from the Kingdom, and to get it to himself, bestowing much money upon the Courtiers, and promising great things unto *Caesar*, whom he knew to be offended with *Aretas*, for assuming the Kingdom without his consent. In the mean while *Aretas* sent Letters, and rich presents unto *Caesar*, and amongst them a Crown worth many Talents: But *Caesar* would not hear his Ambassadors, and scorned his Presents, and dismissed them without any thing done.

Herod being continually vexed with the insolencies of the *Arabians*, sent *Nicholas Damascene* to *Rome*, to see, if by the mediation of his Friends, he could get Justice from *Caesar*: But in the mean time the discord with his Sons that he had by *Mariamme*, was greatly heightened by the artifices of *Eurichus*, a *Lacedæmonian*, which occasioned *Herod*, to find out their supposed treachery, to put to death by various torments, many both of his own, and of his Sons Friends, yet could he find no other evil by them, but some too free complaints of improvident young men, concerning their Fathers immoderate cruelty, and his too easie hearkning to base pick-thanks, of the wicked deceits of their Brother *Antipater*, and of the faction that was combined against them, and that, to free themselves from these mischiefs,

Herod falls out with his Sons, and imprisons them.

they were said to think of flying to *Archelaus*, King of *Cappadocia*, which thing indeed they did not deny: Hereupon *Herod* cast them into prison, as if they had been convicted of treason against their Father, resolving to punish them according as his Affairs went at *Rome* and concerning this business he sent Letters to *Cesar* by *Volumnius*, the Roman General, and *Olympius*, his Friend.

At *Rome* *Nicholas Damascene* joyned himself to the *Arabians* that came to accuse *Syllanus*, professing that he was his accuser also before *Augustus*, and not *Herod's* defender, and this he did, lest he should be repulsed as others had been before him. When by this means he had gotten access into *Cesar's* presence, he indeed laid open many of *Syllanus's* crimes, and withall added, that *Cesar* was circumvented with his lies in the cause of *Herod*, which he confirmed by certain authentick records: This so prevailed with *Cesar* that he condemned *Syllanus*, and remanded him into the Province, that when he had satisfied the debt, he might be punished.

Cesar is
reconciled
to *Herod*.

From this time *Augustus* was reconciled to *Aretas*, and *Herod*, and then received the Presents that before he had so often rejected, and confirmed the Kingdom of the *Arabians* to *Aretas*. He advised *Herod* also by his letters, to call a Councel of his Friends at *Berytus*, and joyning the Presidents of *Syria*, with *Archelaus*, the King of *Cappadocia*, by their joynt advice to determine of the business about his Sons.

An Angel
appears to
Zachary.

About this time the Angel *Gabriel* (who long before had foretold to *Daniel* the coming of the *Messias* by a certain number of weeks) appeared at the right side of the Altar of incense to *Zachary* the Priest, of the course of *Abia*, telling him, that there should be born to him now in his old age, his wife *Elizabeth* also being well stricken in years and barren, a Son called *John*, a *Nazarite*, and the forerunner of the Lord, in the spirit, and power of *Elias*: which he not believing was made dumb, *Luk.* 1 5, 22.

Herod having received *Augustus's* his letters, rejoiced exceedingly, both because he was returned into his favour and

and for that he had granted him power to do what he would with his Sons, and hereupon he convened by messengers all those that *Cæsar* had appointed, to *Berythus*, except only *Archelaus*, and kept his sons not far from the place, in a City of the *Sidonians*: and the Case being opened, *Saturninus*, one that had been Consul, delivered his opinion, but moderated with circumstances, that *Herods* Sons were to be condemned, but not to be put to death: After him, his three Sons that were his Lieutenants, delivered their opinions to the same purpose: But *Volumnius* pronounced that they were to be punished with death, whose opinion the major part followed: and so the Councel being ended, *Herod* took his Sons with him, and meeting with *Nicholas Damascene* at *Tyros*, they went together to *Cæsarea*.

Herod procures his Sons to be condemned.

Here, when as a certain old Souldier named *Tyro*, had smartly reprehended *Herod* for his wickedness determined against his Sons, and told him that three hundred more of his Captains were of the same opinion, *Herod* commanded him to be cast into prison: *Trypho* the Kings Barber, taking this occasion, accused *Tiro* for that he had often solicited him to cut the Kings throat with his razor, as he was trimming him, and immediately both *Tiro*, and his Son, and the Barber were tortured: and *Herod* bringing those three hundred Captains, and *Tiro* and his Son, and the Barber, accused them before the People, against whom the people throwing any thing that came next to hand, slew them every one.

Herods cruelty.

Then were *Alexander*, and *Aristobulus* led to *Sebastæ*, and there strangled by their Fathers command, and their bodies were buried in the Castle of *Alexandria*, where *Alexander*, their Grandfather by the mothers side, and many of their Progenitors, had been buried.

Herods Sons strangled.

Antipater, when his Brethren were now dead, intended to remove his Father also out of the way: and knowing that he was hated by many in the Kingdom, he endeavoured by Bribes to get the good will of his Fathers Friends, both at *Rome* and in *Judea*; but especially of *Saturninus*, the Presi-

Antipaters Treason.

dent of Syria, and of *Pheroras*, and *Salome*, the Brother and Sister of *Herod*.

At this time *Herod* sent home *Glaphira*, the widdow of his son *Alexander*, to her Father *Archelaus* the King of *Cappadocia*, and gave her a Dowry out of his Treasury, lest some controversy should arise concerning it, and withall, he took great care of the young children of *Alexander*, and *Aristobulus*, which *Antipater* took very heavily, fearing lest when they should come to age, they would hinder his designs he sought therefore their destruction: and he so overcame *Herod* by his flatteries that he suffered him to marry the daughter of *Aristobulus*, and his son to marry the daughter of his Uncle *Pheroras*.

About this time *Herod* invited *Zamaris*, a *Babylonian Jew*, and gave him a Country in *Trachonis* to inhabit, and this he did, that he might be a guard to that Country against Thieves: and *Zamaris* coming with five hundred Horse, and an hundred of his kinsmen, erected Castles in divers places of that Country, by which means he secured the *Jews* that came from *Babylon* to the Feasts at *Jerusalem* from the Thieves.

Antipater working treason against his Father, drew in his Uncle *Pheroras*, and some of the Kings women, that were most addicted to the Sect of the *Pharisees*, except *Salome*, who constantly adhered to her Brother *Herod*. These *Pharisees* were a crafty people, arrogant, and enemies to Kings, and they only of the whole nation of the *Jews*, refused to swear allegiance to *Herod* and *Cesar*, and were about six thousand. For which cause *Herod* fined them, and the wife of *Pheroras* paid their fine for them, to whom, by way of requitall, they foretold that the Kingdom should be taken from *Herod*, and his children, and be transferred upon her Husband, and her, and their children: these things *Salome* made known to *Herod*, who examining the business, put some of the *Pharisees* to death, and with them, the Eunuch *Dagoas*, and his darling *Carus*, who was commended to him for his handsomeness; and besides these, all the rest of his Family whom he found to have conspired with the *Pharisees*.

Of the
Pharisees.

Herod
Knew some
of them.

Herod

Herod having punished the *Pbarisees*, called a Council of his Friends, and before them began an accusation against the wife of his brother *Pheroras*, and when *Pheroras*, tho to gratifie his Brother, would not forsake her, he forbad *Antipater Pheroras* his company: and *Antipater*, that he might remove all suspicion from himself, procured by his friends that his Father should send him immediately to *Augustus*: and accordingly *Herod* sent him with great presents, and his Will, in which he declared that *Antipater* should succeed him in the Kingdom: but if he died before him, then his Son that he had by *Mariamne*, the daughter of *Simon* the High Priest.

Herod
sends his
Son to
Caesar.

In the sixth moneth after *John* was conceived, the Angel *Gabriel* was sent to *Nazareth* in *Galilee*, to the blessed Virgin *Mary*, betrothed to *Joseph*, of the same Tribe with her: viz. of the stock of *David*, and declared to her that she should bring forth the Son of God, and call his name *Jesus*, and she being more fully taught of his admirable conception by the power of the Holy Ghost overshadowing her, with great Faith, said, Be it to the handmaid of the Lord according to thy word, Luk. 1. 26, 38. and presently after she went into the Hill-Country, into a City of *Judah* (viz. *Hebron*, a City of the Priests, situated in the mountains of *Judea*, Josh. 21. 10, 11.) where, when she entred into the House of *Zachary*, and saluted her Cousin *Elizabeth*, the babe sprang in her womb, and she, being filled with the Holy Ghost, declared that *Mary* was blessed, &c. Luk. 1. 39, 56.

The Angel
appears to
Mary.

Herod banished his Brother *Pheroras* into his Tetrarchy, because he would not part with his wife, who swore that he would never return till he heard of *Herods* death, so that a little after, *Herod* falling sick, and often sending for him, to receive some private instructions, he refused to come for his oaths-sake.

Herod
banishes
his Bro-
ther.

When *Elizabeths* time was come, she brought forth a Son, who was called *John*, and *Zacharies* speech being restored to him, he prophesied, saying, Blessed be the Lord God of *Israel* &c. Luk. 1. 57, 58. and *Joseph* finding his betrothed wife to be with child, thought of putting her away privily,

John Es-
tist is
born.

but being warned by God in a dream, he took her to wife,
Mat. 1. 24.

Pheroras
 dieth.

Pheroras falling sick, and *Herod*, beyond expectation, being recovered, went to visit him, and very kindly sought help for him, but he died within a few dayes after, whose body was brought to *Jerusalem*, and interred by *Herod*, who honoured him with publick mourning.

Antipaters
 Treason.

At this time two of *Pheroras's* freed men, declared to *Herod* how he was killed by poyson, given him by *Doris*, the Mother of *Antipater*, which whilest *Herod* enquired into, by little and little he found out greater Villanies, and the manifest treasons of his Son *Antipater*, who, when he went to *Rome*, had delivered a deadly poyson to *Pheroras*, that was sent him out of *Egypt* from his Uncle *Theodore*, the brother of *Doris*, wherewithall to make away his Father, that so the suspicion of the Parricide should not lye upon him, being so far absent.

Hereupon *Herod* put *Doris* out of the Pallace, and took from her Jewels that were worth many Talents: He also put from him his wife *Mariamne*, the daughter of the High Priest, as a partner of all these secrets, and blotting her son out of his Will, and deprived her Father of the High Priesthood, and substituted in his room *Mathias*, the Son of *Theophilus*, that was born at *Jerusalem*.

Antipaters
 Craft.

Presently after came *Bathyllus*, *Antipaters* freed-man from *Rome*, who being tortured, confessed that formerly he had brought poyson, and given it to *Doris*, and *Pheroras*, that if the first proved too weak, they should be sure to dispatch *Herod* with the second. There came also letters from his Friends at *Rome*, to the King, written by the entreaty of *Antipater*, in which *Archelaus* and *Philip*, *Herods* sons, were accused for often complaining of the death of *Alexander* and *Aristobulus*, pittying the misfortune of their murdered brethren: For these young men were studying at *Rome*, and their Father had now commanded their return: whereupon *Antipater* by great gifts corrupted those friends, that by their letters they might make the young men suspected to their Father, who if they lived, might be an hindrance to his hopes.

About

About this time *Augustus* taxing all the *Roman* world, our Lord Christ was born, *Luk. 2. 4, 5.*

Christ is born.

Shortly after there came wise men from the East, the Star being their guide, to *Herod* at *Jerusalem*, and there, being taught that the birth place of Christ, was *Bethlehem* of *Judea*, thither they went, and entering into the house, which was shewed them by the Star that stood over it, they found the Child, and fell down, and worshipped him, &c. *Mat. 2. 1, 12.*

After the Angel of the Lord appeared unto *Joseph* in a dream, warning him to fly into *Egypt*, where he remained till the death of *Herod*, *Mat. 2. 13, 14, 15.*

Joseph flies into *Egypt*.

Herod thinking that the Child was still at *Bethlehem*, that he might destroy him amongst the rest, killed all the children which were in *Bethlehem*, and in all the Coasts thereof, from two years old, and under, according to the time (of the Star first seen in the East) that he had enquired of the wise men, *Mat. 2. 16.*

Herod kills the children.

Herod receiving letters from *Antipater* from *Rome*, in which he signified, that having dispatched all his business according to his own mind, he would shortly return into his own Country, he wrote back to him again, dissembling his anger, that he should make hast, lest any thing should befall him in his absence that he should not like of; and also gently complaining of his Mother, he promised that he would remit all differences after his return.

Herod ensuaires his Son.

Antipater heard no news all this while either of the death of *Pheroras*, or of those things that were on foot against him, though there were seven moneths space between the wickedness proved against him, and his return. For in his journey at *Tarentum*, he met with a letter of the death of *Pheroras*, and in *Cilicia* those letters of his Father that called him back so hastily; and when he came to *Cilenderis*, a Town of *Cilicia*, he began to doubt of his return, hearing of, and being extreme sorrowfull for the disgrace of his Mother, yet sailing forwards, he came to *Sebaste*, a Port of *Cæsarea*, where, being saluted by none, he went to *Jerusalem*.

Antipaters return.

It happened that *Quintilius Varus*, was the same time at *Jerusalem*, being sent as Successor to *Saturninus* into *Syria*, and then called thither by *Herod* to assist him with his counsell in those his weighty-affairs. As they were sitting both together, in comes *Antipater* not knowing any thing, and in his purple garment that he used to wear, entering the Pallace; but himself being entred, the Guards suffered none of his followers to come in with him: As he was coming near, his Father thrust him from him, reproaching him with the murder of his Brethren, and his intention of poisoning his Father, telling him that the next day *Varus* should hear, and determine all things betwixt them, and accordingly the next day, *Varus*, and the King, sitting in Judgement, his Father himself first began the accusation, and left the prosecution, and confirmation thereof to his old Friend, *Nicholas Damascene*, one that knew all the business, and when *Antipater* could not clear himself from the crimes objected against him, *Varus* commanded the poison that he had prepared for his Father to be brought forth, which being given to a condemned man, killed him immediately: after which *Varus* rose from the Council, and the next day went to *Antiochia*: but *Herod* cast his Son into prison, and signified so much by letters to *Cesar*: sending also messengers, who by word of mouth might acquaint him with the cursed treason of *Antipater*.

Antipater
accused
by his Fa-
ther.

Herod's
sickness.

As these messengers were posting to *Rome*, *Herod* fell sick, and made his Will, leaving his Kingdom to his youngest Son, *Herod Antipas*, being exasperated against his two elder Sons, *Archelaus*, and *Philip*, by the false accusations of *Antipater*.

Judas the son of *Saripheus*, and *Matthias*, the son of *Margalothus*, two of the most learned of the *Jews*, and best Interpreters of the Law, knowing that the Kings sickness was incurable, perswaded some young men, that were their Scholars, to throw down the Golden Eagle that was set up by *Herod*, over the great gate of the Temple; who accordingly, going up at noon day, pulled and hewed down with their axes the Eagle, a great multitude being in the Temple,

The Golden Eagle
hewn
down.

Temple, and beholding it: which as soon as it was told the Captains, he came with a strong band of souldiers, and laid hold upon some sorty of the young men, together with their Masters, and brought them to Herod: These constantly defending what they had done, Herod commanded them to be bound, and sent them to Jericho: Then calling for the Rulers of the Jews, into whose Assembly he was brought in a Litter, by reason of his weakness, he complained to them, not so much of the injury done to himself, as to God (as he said) These denying that it was done by their order, somewhat pacified him, only he took away the High Priesthood from Matthias, whom he suspected not to be a stranger to that fact, and made his successor Jazer, the Brother of his Wife Mariamne, the daughter of Simon the High Priest; but he burned alive the other Matthias that was the author of this sedition, and his companions.

Herod puts
them to
death.
His sick-
ness en-
creaseth.

Herods disease began now to grow worse: for he was burned with a slow fire, which was not perceived so much by the outward touch, as by the inward effects of it, which burnt up his very bowels: He had also the disease called the *Bulemia*, or Dog-like appetite, which provoked him to a continuall desire of eating, and yet nothing would satisfie him: He was also continually tormented with ulcers in his bowels, and pains of the collick: His feet swelled with a moist phlegm, and his thighs also: His members rotted and were full of worms, which occasioned an intollerable stink: He was no less troubled with a *Priapisme*: and moreover was vexed with grievous convulsions, and difficulty of breathing.

And though he was so grievously tormented, that every one judged that he could not be able to endure it long, yet he hoped that he should break through it, being very carefull to send for the ablest Physicians, and sought medicines from every place: He went also beyond Jordan to the hot Baths at Callibee, which run into the Asphaltite lake, which besides the medicinal vertue, are pleasant, and good to be drunk: There being, by the advice of his Physicians, set into a bathing tub of oil, he seemed to them to be giving up the Ghost, yet by the sudden crying out, and lamentations of his Friends, he came to himself again, and now seeing no hope of recovery, he commanded fifty Drachmats to be given to every souldier, and having shewed much liberality to his Captains, and Friends, he returned again to Jericho.

All means
of cure
fail him.

Augustus

Augustus being told that amongst the children which *Herod* had caused to be slain at *Bethlehem*, there was a son also of his own slain. He said, *That it was better to be Herods hog than his Son.*

His cruelty.

Herod by an edict called together to *Ferichs*, all the most Noble of the *Jews*, and when they came, he shut them all up together in a place called, the *Hippodrome*, giving command to his sister *Salome*, and her husband *Alexus*, that as soon as he was dead, they should cause his souldiers to slay them all, that so the people might have cause of sorrow, who otherwise (he feared) would rejoyce at his death.

He attempts to murder himself.

At this time letters came from *Rome* from the Ambassadors whom he had sent to *Cesar*, wherein they certified him that the Emperor left *Antipater* to his Fathers pleasure, either to banish, or to put him to death. *Herod* hearing this, was a little cheared: but presently his torments returning, and being greedy of meat, he called for an apple and a knife to pare it, intending with the knife to have stabbed himself, which also he attempted: but *Archelaus*, his Nephew, prevented him, and holding his right hand, called for help. This accident caused much sorrow, fear, and tumult through the whole Pallace, as if *Herod* had been dead.

Antipater slain.
Herods Will.

Antipater perceiving the noise, thought verily that his Father was dead, and thereupon began to tamper with his Keeper about letting him out, promising him great rewards, both for the present, and for the future when it would lye in his power amply to reward him: This his practice the Keeper told to the King, who for indignation cried, and though he was so near death, yet did he raise up himself on his Bed, and commanded one of his Guard to go presently and kill *Antipater*, and to bury him in the Castle of *Hyrcañion* without any honour, which was done accordingly.

Then did he make a new Testament: for *Antipas*, whom before he had made successor to his Kingdom, he made *Tetrarch* of *Galilee*, and *Petrea*: To his son *Philip* he assigned the regions of *Gaulanitis*, *Trachinitis*, *Batanae*, and *Pancada* in the name of a Tetrarchy, but he gave the Kingdom to his Son *Archelaus*: To his sister *Salome* he gave *Jamnia*, *Azotus*, and *Jabeselis*, with five hundred thousand *Drachmaes*: To the rest of his kindred he gave money, and yearly Pensions: To *Cesar* he gave ten Millions of *Drachmaes* of silver, and all his Plate, as well of Gold as of Silver, and a great quantity of precious moveables: and To *Livia*, *Cesars* wife, and some certain friends, he gave five Millions of *Drachmaes*.

His Death Having thus ordered these things, five dayes after *Antipater* was put to death, he dyed himself, having enjoyed the Kingdom 34 years after the death of *Antigonus*: but from the time that he was declared King by the *Romans*, 37 years, about the 25th of our *November*, in the year of the world 4001, and after the birth of *Christ*, about two years. F E N I S.

There is lately published by Mr Sam Clarke, a new Piece of Lives, containing the Lives of ten Eminent Divines, with some other private Christians, the Divines being as follow; Mr John Carter, Mr Sam Crook, Mr John Cotton, Dr Tho. Hill, Dr Will. Gouge, Mr Tho. Garker, Mr Jeremy Whitaker, A. B. James Usher, Mr Rich. Capel, and Dr Rob. Harris, &c. Sold by Will. Miller at the Gilded Asorn near the Little North Door in St Pauls Church-yard.